



■ 2bU/CI
Hoops
spring
eternal

■ Business/BI
8-month budget
gap on target
at P111.1B

■ World/A10
Kerry blasts Iraq
invasion as
'historic' failure



■ Metro/A23
Bus route scheme
revived to ease
Edsa traffic

■ Entertainment/A31
Mayors should
run filmfest,
says Atienza



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

PLANNED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

September 22, 2004 ★★ 56 pages / 5 sections / vol. 19 / no. 287 P18

**There's hope for Jhelyn,
other cerebral palsy patients**
Today is the last day of the first Cerebral Palsy
Awareness and Protection Week.—Ed.

By Blanche S. Rivera

FOR FOUR years Cherry Florentino took her daughter Jhelyn for therapy at the Philippine Cerebral Palsy Inc. (PCPI) center in Makati City. But mother and daughter had to stop the

THERE'S/A21

website: www.inq7.net

Erap on Revilla: Oh no, why him?

TATTERED GLORY

Is this any way to treat the symbol of national pride and dignity? A disintegrating image of the "strong republic" flaps in the wind at the foot of the C5 flyover. Behold it and weep.

Garcia, sis under fire over P5M in advances

By Cynthia D. Balana

WINSTON Garcia, president and general manager of the Government Service and Insurance System (GSIS), and his sister who served as his assistant incurred P5.25 million in unliquidated cash advances in 10 months alone in 2001, according to a member of the House of Representatives.

Rep. Rolox Suplico (LDP, Iloilo) yesterday sought a congressional investigation not only of Garcia's unliquidated advances but also of the fat salaries of GSIS executives.

"Garcia was receiving P356,979 a month while his sister, Carolyn Garcia-Empemano, whom he employed as his senior assistant, was getting P98,767 a month in basic pay plus P31,101.64 in allowances," Suplico said.

"This brother and sister act made GSIS their private enclave. Like her brother, Carolyn enjoys

GARCIA/AS

Lawyers up in arms over high court fees

By Philip C. Tubeza
and Luige del Puerto

WARNING that litigants may be forced to take the law into their own hands, the Integrated Bar of the Philippines yesterday asked the Supreme Court to nullify the law that led to the excessive hike in court fees, some of which went up by as much as 4,900 percent.

In a petition for certiorari and prohibition, the IBP asked the high court to declare as unconstitutional Republic Act No. 9227, the law giving judges and justices special allowances which are to be sourced from the increased court fees.

It asked the SC to immediately issue a temporary restraining order to stop all of the increases in court docket fees and set the case for oral arguments.

LAWYERS/A21



DISPLAYING their commitment, activists march under the pouring rain along España in Manila and vow to continue their struggle... ENK/ARAZAS

32 years after, justice still eludes victims



...WHILE members of the Western Police District wage a losing battle to keep dry. ENK/ARAZAS

THIRTY-TWO years may have passed since martial law was imposed, but it continues to haunt the country.

Protesters yesterday held rallies in Manila and other cities nationwide, demanding justice for martial law victims, decrying vestiges of Ferdinand Marcos' dictatorship that allegedly remained, and "continuing the unfinished struggle."

Hundreds of activists belonging to militant groups Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, Kilusang Mayo Uno, Anakpawis and Selda marched to the Chino Roces Bridge on the road leading to Malacañang, slamming President Macapagal-Arroyo's failure to compensate the victims. They also accused her of using strong-arm tactics in tackling economic problems, and to quell protests and separatist insurgencies.

Riot police and barbed wire met the demonstrators.

32 / EARS/A21

Ex-general widens lead over Megawati in Indon polls

JAKARTA—Indonesian President Megawati Sukarnoputri will not concede or make a public comment until all ballots in the country's first-ever direct presidential elections are counted, a senior aide said yesterday.

Megawati met with top officials of her Indonesia Democratic Party-Struggle to discuss the tally which shows her well behind her

rival, retired army general Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, by 20 percentage points with 60 percent of the vote counted.

Announcement of the official result by the election commission is not expected until Oct 5. "Before that, we will not issue a stance," said Pramono Anung, party deputy secretary general.

This position marks a return to

Megawati's media-shy past after a brief flurry of public appearances ahead of the vote. Analysts say her aloofness during three years in power played a role in her downfall.

In contrast, Yudhoyono, once her chief security minister, has yet to declare victory, but has already held several news confer-

EX-GENERAL/A22

THE ELECTION

- This is the first time Indonesians directly elected their leader.
- Before, the president was chosen by members of parliament.
- 122 million voted, for an 80% turnout.
- Official election results will be known on Oct. 5.
- Monday's election was a run-off vote after Yudhoyono failed to get a majority over Megawati in the first round of elections held in July.

POI RESEARCH
SOURCE: POI ARCHIVES, AP

High court 'rules' vs love

By Philip C. Tubeza

COMMANDMENT No. 6, Sec. A: Thou shalt not marry an employee of a rival firm.

The Supreme Court has upheld a pharmaceutical company's policy prohibiting its employees from marrying employees of a rival firm, saying that it is a valid exercise of management prerogative to

HIGH/AB



Iraqi militants behead American

BAGHDAD—American contractor Eugene Armstrong, in an orange jumpsuit, sits blindfolded on the floor. Standing behind him are black-clad and hooded gunmen. As one of them reads a statement denouncing the United States and demanding the release of Iraqi women prisoners, Armstrong rocks back and forth. Then one of his captors grabs him and, as he screams, chops off his head with a knife.

This video footage was released by militants who said they would kill another American and a Briton yesterday unless their demands were met. The group is led by Washington's acknowledged "top foe" in Iraq.

A senior defense official in Washington said Armstrong's body was found by Iraqi police near a mosque in the city. "The body is now in US custody," the official said.

Armstrong was seized in Baghdad on Thursday along with fellow American Jack Hensley and Briton Kenneth Bigley.

United States President George W. Bush, in comments made before the release of the video on an Islamist website on Monday, said the United States would "stay on the offensive."

"They will behead people in order to shake our will," Bush told a campaign rally. "[They] are ide-

logues of hatred. You cannot negotiate with [them]."

Negotiations to save the two remaining hostages are made even more unlikely by the very nature of the demands by the Tawhid and Jihad group led by al-Qaida ally Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

IRAQI/A22

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Visayas and Mindanao including Palawan will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rain showers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rain showers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY IYESSA, FOR INQUIRER/09/22/04

Second FRONT PAGE

Text us your feedback: Inquirer news center/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Manila Partly Cloudy
Bogus Partly Cloudy
Baguio Partly Cloudy
Cebu Partly Cloudy
Clark Partly Cloudy
Davao Partly Cloudy
Iloilo Partly Cloudy
Laguna Partly Cloudy
Cebu Partly Cloudy

Alabang Partly Cloudy
Boracay Partly Cloudy
Cebu Partly Cloudy
Davao Partly Cloudy
Iloilo Partly Cloudy
Laguna Partly Cloudy
Cebu Partly Cloudy
Davao Partly Cloudy
Iloilo Partly Cloudy
Laguna Partly Cloudy

GOCC debts reach P1.1 trillion

By Cynthia D. Balana

FINANCE officials yesterday placed at P1.093 trillion the partial contingent debts of the national government, most of which were incurred by 26 of the 76 government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs).

The total guaranteed and relent loans of the National Power Corporation (Napocor) alone stood at \$8.33 billion (roughly P466.5 billion) as of Dec. 31 last year.

Contingent liabilities refer to the legal obligation of the government to make payments on projects it had supplied with credit guarantee should the contractor default or certain events, such as currency fluctuation, occur.

To lure private investors to build infrastructure projects, for example, government has made it a point to assume potential risks.

In a letter to Rep. Rolando Andaya Jr. (Luzon, Camarines Sur), chair of the House appropriations committee, Finance Secretary Juanita Amatong clarified that the department's 8-page listing of government contingent liabilities contained "preliminary figures" as of December 2003.

Amatong was forced to submit even a partial list of contingent liabilities after the committee threatened to suspend the budget hearing indefinitely until the finance department submitted a list of the actual contingent debt stock.

Amatong's letter, which was distributed during the budget hearing, showed that nearly half of the government guaranteed liabilities were almost certain to become actual national government debt. Amatong was also present in the hearing.

Could be higher

She said the figures could still go higher if guarantee covers on independent power producers (IPPs) and potential government exposure on state pension funds would be included.

Andaya, however, insisted that the floor price of contingent debt stock could reach up to P2.3 trillion at the very least considering that the list was incomplete.

According to him, pegging the real value of the contingent debt was like "looking for a needle in a haystack."

There was no main database on the actual total figures because the records were scattered in the different departments and agencies of the government involved, he said.

"What we have here are several ticking debt bombs. But we don't know how they are and the schedule of their explosion," Andaya said.

"How can we brace for the fiscal shock caused by contingent debt when we can't forecast when

the Big Bang would happen?" he asked.

Andaya admitted that his committee was clueless as to how much the actual contingent debt stock was.

In Amatong's report to the committee, loans of GOCCs and government financial institutions (GFIs) that were guaranteed by the government hit P723.8 billion while those extended to "guarantee institutions" reached P51.5 billion.

On the other hand, build-operate-transfer projects by the private sector added P318.7 billion to the contingent debt stock.

'Big ticket' items

Andaya, however, insisted that the count did not include "big-ticket items" such as IPP obligations, other BOT projects, and actuarial deficit of the Government Service and Insurance System and the Social Security System, which the government would have to pick up should their funds dry up.

IPP obligations alone were expected to hit \$10.91 billion or P610.9 billion at the end of the year, on a P56 to the dollar exchange rate.

On a per-sector basis, power accounted for \$9.25 billion, followed by transportation with \$1,027 billion, water with \$415.8 million, government financial institutions, \$2,919 billion with social security with \$192.4 million, housing with \$388.2 million and food and agriculture with \$456.7 million.

In addition, 49 monitored GOCCs have an aggregate "domestic and foreign liabilities" of P2.12 trillion as gleaned from the balance sheets.

"There is no 100-percent reliable crystal ball as of the moment that would tell us this early which will end up as government obligations," Andaya said.

In forecasting contingent debt that may be assumed by the government, Andaya said what the committee had was just a "suspect list" that was derived from BOT projects with government guarantees.

Most of these were power projects with a combined cost of P975 billion, most of which were under operation and concession.

Andaya lamented the lack of cohesive programming in the allocation of government guarantee cover for such big contingent debt.

He said the information was diffused, there was no provision for potential guarantee calls, there was no early warning system for problematic guarantees and most of all, the government seemed always to be at the losing end while private interests and profit were protected and ensured.

Andaya cited the case of the Metro Railway Transit project which saw the fixed annual rental shooting up from \$72.5 million to \$123.7 million even before the first train could even make its run due to faulty projection on ridership.



SECURITY COUNCIL

President Macapagal-Arroyo is flanked by Vice President Noli de Castro and two former presidents—Fidel Ramos and Corason Aquino—during yesterday's meeting of the National Security Council at the Malacanang Palace.

Speaker's House safe from 'pork revolt'

By Carlito Pablo

THE HOUSE under Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. is stable.

Rep. Ignacio Arroyo (Kampik, Negros Occidental) said so a day after congressmen were assured in a caucus Monday that they would retain the power to identify their pet projects under a modified pork barrel system.

"The so-called pork revolt, as some people called it and in which Kampik had no hand, has subsided," Arroyo said. "Whatever grumbling there was will be fading."

De Venecia announced Monday after an all-party caucus that the House was adopting line item budgeting, effectively phasing out the graft-ridden lump-sum

system of identifying pork barrel projects.

Line item budgeting involves identifying each project and its cost in every legislative district, "line by line."

"That is acceptable to Kampik. The line item budget system will mean more transparency in legislative projects," Arroyo said.

Days earlier, a number of congressmen had taken to the House floor demanding to know what would happen to their Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF), the euphemism for the pork barrel under which they were allotted P70 million each per year to disburse as they saw fit.

At one point, Rep. Jacinto Paras (Luzon, Negros Oriental) had threatened to introduce a motion declaring

all House positions vacant.

The House leadership then issued a statement saying the pork barrel would be abolished as part of austerity measures.

But De Venecia later clarified that the pork barrel would remain—only the system of doling it out from lump-sum to line item budgeting would change.

In a statement, Rep. Robert Jaworski Jr. (Luzon, Pasig City) said he hoped the "coup noises against the leadership of De Venecia will cease."

"The support shown by the 186 congressmen in the multi-party caucus should serve as a signal that the work of legislation in the House will now proceed smoothly," Jaworski said.

"We've nowhere to go if we continue squabbling with each other," he said.

Solon says 'pain package' is best way to cut deficit

By Gil C. Cabacungan

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo's P166 billion "pain package" of high taxes, power rates, fuel prices and sharp cutbacks in congressional pork barrel over the next three years is the fastest and best way to stop the budget deficit and government debt from ballooning to more than double by 2010, according to a legislator and economic adviser of the President.

Albay Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda said the pain package "would deliver the credibility shock needed to convince foreign creditors to refinance the country's maturing obligations (\$4.6 billion by 2005) and secure credit upgrades within the next 12 to 18 months."

Salceda said that without the pain package, "the contractionary risks become worse as it could trigger a full-blown financial and economic crisis."

He warned that if creditors pull the plug on the Philippines' debt or at best jack up the interest—the Philippines is charged a debt premium of 497 basis points against Thailand's 97, Malaysia's 103 and Indonesia's 330—the budget deficit could explode to P500 billion and government debt to P7 trillion by 2010 from the current P197.5 billion and P3.3 trillion, respectively.

'Pain package'

The three-year pain package consists of new taxes (the sin taxes, petroleum tax and expanded value-added tax), power rate adjustment, the privatization of the National Power Corp., cuts in congressional pork barrel, freeze in internal revenue allotment, and cutbacks in the President's social fund and government employee compensation.

Critics have claimed that these measures would have the effect of constricting economic growth.

But Salceda countered that the enormous debt payments—P302 billion in interest and P385 billion in principal—are what pose the real contractionary risk to the country and not the pain package.

"Debt and deficit have a destabilizing threat more severe than that posed by the communist insurgents or Muslim separatists," he added.

Salceda said that while the reform package would inflict pain in the short term, this would be mitigated by increased private sector investments and possible credit rating upgrades that would free up massive resources for public investments.

Credit rating upgrades or downgrades by international rating agencies determine the cost of government's borrowing and the perceived risks of investing in the country by direct investors.

Salceda said that a credit upgrade within the next 12 to 18 months would generate financial savings of P102 billion or more than half of the cost of the pain package.

"The payback period is less than two years," he said, noting that the savings could be used to boost spending for infrastructure and social services.

This would in turn boost foreign direct investments as creditors would see less risk because of the country's improved ratings.

"One of the salutary effects of the fiscal consolidation is that it would provoke the structural transition from a consumption-led to an investment-led economic expansion," Salceda said.

Need to implement

The need to implement the pain package has become critical in the face of warnings by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and Fitch Ratings of a possible credit rating downgrade for the Philippines if the government fails to convince the international community that it is serious about fixing its financial woes.

The President warned that the Philippines risked a "painful economic death" within two years unless taxes are raised to avert a feared debt default.

She urged the country to "suffer the pain now and experience the gains two years hence (rather) than postpone the pain and die a painful economic death two years from now."

Popular opposition is posing a key stumbling block to Ms. Arroyo's bid to balance the national budget through increased taxes.

A Pulse survey Pulse Asia last week found that 78 percent of Filipinos "see no need to impose new taxes as long as the government strengthens its tax collection efforts."

The eight-month budget deficit rose to P111.1 billion in August, compared to the full-year ceiling of P198 billion, or 4.2 percent of the gross domestic product, the finance department said yesterday. (See related story on page B1.)

On Monday Fitch Ratings warned the Philippines of a potential sovereign credit downgrade if no tax measures were passed by year's end. Philippine government securities are now two notches below investment grade.

NISSAN
MOTOR PHILIPPINES INC.

ANNIVERSARY RUSH!

NISSAN celebrates their 22ND ANNIVERSARY!
Special promo deals are extensively available for all BPI Family Bank clients. Head to a NISSAN Dealer on September 23 for TRULY AFFORDABLE RATES and GREAT GIFT PACKAGES. Don't miss the most exciting deals ever on a NEW Sentra and X-TRAIL!

AS LOW AS 50,000
DOWNPAYMENT FOR THE SENTRA GX

AS LOW AS 100,000
DP FOR THE X-TRAIL 200

PLUS AS MUCH AS P8,000 WORTH OF FREE ACCESSORIES

PLUS AS MUCH AS P15,000 WORTH OF FREE ACCESSORIES

FREE ACCESSORY PACKAGES VARY PER MODEL. CONSULT YOUR DEALER FOR DETAILS. PACKAGES NOT CONVERTIBLE TO CASH.

ANNIVERSARY RUSH PROMO PERIOD FROM SEPT. 16 TO SEPT. 30, 2004
Subject to bank approval. Models shown may vary from actual unit. Offer valid for all Sentra and X-TRAIL models. For CTR NCR Permit #2015, Series of 200

NISSAN GALLERY QUEZON AVE. Tel. Nos. 731-5308, 711-8486	NISSAN WESTGATE Tel. Nos. 772-1026 to 30, 775-0239	NISSAN CENTRAL MANILA Tel. Nos. 251-9058, 251-9080	NISSAN NORTH EDSA (Calabarzon) Tel. Nos. 330-5331 to 50, 485-6888
MANTRADE DEPT CORR Tel. Nos. 843-3316 to 23, 843-5011	NISSAN COMMONWEALTH Tel. Nos. 832-0428, 832-4001	NISSAN GALLERY ORTIGAS Tel. Nos. 635-5888	NISSAN U.N. AVE., MANILA Tel. Nos. 408-1020, 400-2177

Its taste is today's good news!

NESTEA
Life

Take what fits you right.



Was it the chauffeur or the papaitan?

We've never figured it out really, what worked better in the end, but we're thankful anyway.

Mrs. Gwen Roces had always been accompanied by her husband to the bank. He'd open the door for her, see her through, explain what the forms were for, tell her where to sign. And she'd always be listening cheerfully, her pen flashing in compliance. She was glad, we guessed, to have someone sorting out all the forms and procedures for her.

But the day came when Mr. Roces, quite regrettably, passed away. And our account with his wife appeared doomed to follow in his footsteps as well.

Until we remembered that she had never, in all her years with us, come to the bank by herself. It was always an

adventure she embarked upon with her husband. And something we couldn't expect her to do alone.

So we arranged for a driver to pick her up at her house and bring her over. Smiling awkwardly, she stepped into the car. And just as awkwardly, we stepped into the role long reserved for her husband.

Smile by smile, we navigated the course of her transactions with her. And told her that if she wanted, we could keep on doing the same thing for her every time she needed to visit the bank. Her smile was all the yes we needed.

We took her to lunch, too, that day. To a place that, to our knowledge, served the best papaitan in Manila.

(we had learned earlier that it was, strangely enough, her favorite dish). She talked about how she was coping with the loss of her husband, about how the house seemed too big now, about how helpful people had been to her. And how the papaitan felt somehow short of its billing.

We had the driver bring her back home and we heard nothing from Mrs. Roces for the next two weeks. And then she called, asking to be picked up. She had some deposits to make, she said. And a newly cooked pot full of what was truly, as we discovered, the best papaitan in Manila.

(If this doesn't sound like the kind of relationship you... have with your bank, you may want to give us a try.)

Bank
International Exchange Bank
TAKING RELATIONSHIPS TO HEART

Member **SEC** Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Minimum Deposit Requirement for Each Depositary P25,000. Contact Call Center No. 892-8929. Website: www.bank.com.ph. The story told here is true and based on actual facts. Some details were slightly modified to protect the privacy and identities of the people involved.

Guaranteed: The End to Your Acne Problems

Facial Care Centre Introduces

LightCure Acne Therapy

Finally, the real solution to your acne problem is here. LightCure Acne Therapy is the latest technology for the treatment of all types of pimples. It produces results up to 3 times faster than any other anti-acne treatment -- without the pills, pain or pricking and most of all, without any disruption to your lifestyle. LightCure emits the exact wavelengths of light at the most effective intensity for maximum photo-destruction of acne bacteria and reduction of skin inflammation. FDA-approved, it is scientifically proven effective in targeting the exact layers of the sebaceous glands where most acne bacteria reside, without harming surrounding tissues. An additional benefit, LightCure can treat pimples on any part of your body and has long-lasting preventive effect.

So, if you want rapid visible results with minimum effort, enroll for LightCure Acne Therapy now.



LightCure Acne Therapy -- for clearer, pimple-free, smoother skin that looks youthful and beautiful. Call the Facial Care Centre professionals now for your free consultation.

**Facial
care
centre**

CALL 892-SKIN (7546)

Where Beautiful Skin Happens

www.facialcarecentre.com.ph

MAKATI
15/F 133 Tower

ORTIGAS
38/F Robinson's
Equitable Tower

QUEZON CITY
3/F Cedar
Exec Bldg.

SHAW
2/F Sunshine Square
Plaza

ALABANG
3/F Citibank-Frabelle
Bldg

BINONDO
Unit 0-1 City
Plaza Tower

CONGRESSIONAL
2/F Q Plaza Bldg.

PAMPANGA
TEL 961-3404
3/F Dan's Mktg. Bldg.

CEBU
TEL 233-7631
Unit 1203 Koppel Centre

'NO POLITICAL DEBT'

El Shaddai man takes over LRTA

By Clarissa S. Batino

LONGTIME spokesperson of El Shaddai Melquiades Robles will take over as administrator of the Light Rail Transit Authority today amid accusations that his appointment was President Macapagal-Arroyo's settlement of a political debt.

Robles, 40, denounced his critics. "This is an affront to the intelligence of the President. After the elections, she doesn't owe anybody anything. There is no political payoff," he said, even as he acknowledged that El Shaddai, with its membership of millions, supported Ms Arroyo in the last election.

A music teacher, Robles will take over from former solon Pacifico Fajardo

who headed the LRT for only six months.

"I was a music teacher. I was choir director of El Shaddai before I was made its spokesperson. I believe I am qualified because otherwise, I don't think the President would have appointed me," he said. "I am the only LRTA administrator with board experience. Most other heads appointed in the past came in from the cold."

Robles graduated a music major from Santa Isabel College in 1989. He took a professional manager's program at the Ateneo de Manila University in 1992. He was also a director of Intercontinental Broadcasting Corp. from 1998 to 2003.

His appointment as LRTA administra-

tor was released as early as Aug. 17 but there was some misunderstanding with his predecessor.

"There was a miscommunication but it is now settled," said Robles, who had been a member of the railway board since last year.

When he was private sector representative to the LRTA board, Robles figured in a bidding controversy and reportedly locked heads with Fajardo's group. He, however, denied having any part in the P264-million contract for the maintenance of LRT 1.

Ms Arroyo wanted to appoint him at the helm of the LRTA as early as February this year, he revealed, but accepting the position before the elections would have been given political

Robles said that like all political appointees, he would serve at the pleasure of the president.

"She can relieve me of my post tomorrow, next week, or next month and it's OK because I serve at her pleasure. But while I am in this post, I will try to improve the institution," he said without elaborating.

In his short stint as LRTA chief, Fajardo was able to open phase two of LRT 2. But like those before him, Fajardo left LRTA with a huge debt because of billions in subsidies it had to pour in because of unprofitable railway operations.

Last year, the LRTA posted a revenue of more than P5 billion but its debt remained at more than P30 billion.

PDI reporter accuses PSG of harassment

By Juliet Labog-Javalana

AN Inquirer reporter has lodged a formal complaint with the Presidential Security Group over an incident on Sunday where he was refused entry to Malacañang and held for one hour as part of a "random security check."

Gil C. Cabacungan Jr., one of the Inquirer's two reporters covering the Palace, said: "I have a valid car pass, a Malacañang Press Corps ID and a legitimate reason to be in the press work area at Kalayaan Hall."

"Unfortunately, the PSG guards went on their usual power trip and wanted to show who the boss was," Cabacungan said in his complaint letter to PSG chief Col. Delfin Bangit.

Bangit, however, stood by his men, saying he did not find anything wrong with their actions and Cabacungan had been merely "subjected to a random security check."

"I will not tolerate any misdeeds by my men but I could not find any fault (with them)," Bangit said in a phone interview with the Inquirer.

Cabacungan said he went through the security check at the first sentry gate on J. P. Laurel Street where he rolled down his window and showed his pass to the guard who peered into his car.

"As he told me to go, I asked him why he picked me for a security check when he had waved on the two or three cars ahead of me. He said something inaudible and I drove off," Cabacungan said.

He said he was allowed through the second checkpoint near St. Jude Church but was stopped at Gate 6, which leads to Kalayaan Hall where the press has its work area.

"The two guards told me to go back to the first checkpoint to see the guard who had ordered me to stop. I refused because I had all the valid cards to enter Malacañang," he said.

"After 10 minutes, another guard in a brown uniform arrived and engaged me in a heated argument," Cabacungan said. He said the PSG man walked away when he asked for his name.

At about 1:30 p.m., he said a Captain Darlag came to talk to him at Gate 6, telling him he was being stopped because he "ran away" from the checkpoint.

"I told Darlag I had no reason to run away and that I would never risk getting shot at, especially by PSG guards," Cabacungan said.

He said Darlag told him to lower his voice but he said he was not shouting.

"It was Darlag, not me, who was getting angry and this he admitted. 'Yes, I'm getting angry at you now,' he quoted the PSG officer."

"He then said I was free to go, almost an hour after being stopped at Gate 6," Cabacungan said.

Reenacted budget for 2005 looms

By Christine O. Avendaño and Cynthia D. Balana

WITH hearings on the proposed 2005 national budget indefinitely suspended, some senators now doubt it would ever be passed this year, raising fears that the government would again have to operate on a reenacted budget for the second straight year.

The senators blamed the delay on the slow pace of the budget deliberations at the House as well as the lower chamber's move to adopt line item budgeting to tackle the proposed budget.

The House appropriations committee on Monday declared an indefinite suspension of budget hearings.

Sen. Joker Arroyo said the House, which has the first look at the proposed budget, was already behind schedule on its deliberations on the proposed P907.6-billion budget for

"And at the rate of how things are going, you can more or less see," Arroyo told reporters, warning that current controversies generated by the fiscal problems may affect the budget deliberations.

Arroyo admitted that the government would have to contend with a reenacted budget if Congress fails to pass the 2005 budget by the end of the year.

Both Sen. Panfilo Lacson and Sen. Manuel

Villar Jr. believe the adoption of line item budgeting would further delay the enactment of the proposed budget.

Like Arroyo, both Lacson and Villar said there was a danger the government would have to operate on a reenacted budget again if Congress resorts to line item budgeting.

Last year, Congress had to reenact the 2003 budget after it failed to pass the proposed 2004 national budget on time.

Lacson said that line item budgeting would be a "tedious" task since lawmakers will have to identify all the projects they want funded by their pork barrel.

"Assuming each of us will identify 100 projects, that's 100 items per senator," he told reporters.

He said this would mean that Congress would not be able to finish deliberations on

"And that's a problem because the Constitution does not provide for reenactment of a reenacted budget," Lacson said.

Villar told reporters that line item budgeting would take up much time.

"I have no problem in a line budgeting system, I'm just worried about the time (it would take)," he said.

He, however, fears this might cause delay in the passage of the proposed budget and might end up with Congress passing a reenacted budget again.

Cleared, Yap defends P432-M fertilizer deal

AGRICULTURE Secretary Arthur Yap yesterday defended the P432-million fertilizer deal by the Department of Agriculture last year and expressed confidence that the other agriculture officials accused of graft in connection with the transaction would also be exonerated.

Two days after he was cleared, Yap also expressed the hope that the Ombudsman would act expeditiously on the complaint filed by former agriculture employee Marlene Esperat last year.

The charges stemmed from the alleged overprice of P432 million worth of fertilizers bought by the department last year. Named

respondents in the case were Yap, Agriculture Undersecretary Edmund Sana, former Undersecretary Jocelyn Bolante, assistant secretaries Ibarra Poliquit and Belinda Gonzalez, legal service head Eduardo Garcia, chief accountant Ophelia Agawin, Jesus Varela, Benjamin Tabios and businessman Pepito Alvarez, majority owner of Philippine Phosphate Fertilizer Corp.

The Ombudsman had cleared Yap in the preliminary investigation on the fertilizer controversy and dropped his name from the list of respondents in the complaint.

Yap, who was then National Food Authority ad-

ministrative, had branded the charges as "an orchestrated demolition job" to prevent his confirmation as agriculture secretary, coming as it did so soon after his appointment to the post.

"Clearly, this is a case of political harassment," he said in a press statement.

"We welcome the opportunity for the concerned DA officials led by former Undersecretary Jocelyn Bolante to clear their names. I believe in their innocence as I know that the procurement was made with DA funds and the process employed was of open and public bidding participated in by known fertilizer suppliers," Yap said.

Ex-finance usec not yet off the hook

By Armand N. Nocum

HE'S NOT off the hook.

Although Finance Undersecretary Inocencio Ferrer Jr. had been sacked as co-chair of Special Presidential Task Force 156, the Ombudsman would continue to investigate his alleged irregularities.

In an interview, Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio said Ferrer remained liable for his crime although he had been fired from government service.

"We will request (a report of the) proceedings at the Senate blue ribbon committee. If evidence warrants it, he should be investigated by the Ombudsman," said Villa-Ignacio, who heads the prosecution of the P5.3-billion tax credit scam involving the Chingkie group of companies at the Sandiganbayan.

Ferrer quit as finance undersecretary and co-chair of the SPTF amid accusations that the agency had bungled its own cases in exchange for some favors. Later, President Macapagal-Arroyo herself said that Ferrer had been sacked.

The Ombudsman has recently made the couple Felix and Rosita Chingkie—who were earlier implicated in the scam—witnesses in the case.

Felix, co-founder and unequated head of the Chingkie group of companies, is expected to give documentary and testimonial evidence on the alleged conspiracy hatched by his brother Faustino and finance officials to defraud the government of billions in tax credit certificates (TCCs).

A TCC is proof of a company's claim for tax credits, granted either to exporting firms that are entitled to duty-free privileges or tax refunds.

Solon wants uniform tax on all cigarettes

By Carlito Pablo

AT LEAST 88 billion cigarettes go up in smoke in the country each year. Corollary to this is the staggering P46 billion in health care costs due to tobacco-related diseases.

Rep. Crispin Remulla (NR Cavite) yesterday cited these figures in defending his proposal to impose an additional P2 per pack tax on all cigarette brands.

"We are in the midst of a tobacco epidemic," Remulla said on the sidelines of a House committee on ways and means hearing on proposals to raise cigarette and liquor taxes.

Remulla said a uniform tax would plug the loophole in the current four-tier tax system which allows manufacturers to introduce cheaper-priced brands into the market to avoid having to pay the higher taxes that are slapped on the more expensive brands.

"They're taking advantage of the system," said Remulla of the practice that encourages smokers to switch to the cheaper brands.

Remulla said a uniform tax increase would discourage smoking all around.

"A uniform tax will level the playing field," he said.

Under the current system, brands in packs of 20 with a retail price of P5 are taxed P1.12 a pack; brands priced between P5-P6.50 are taxed P5.60; those priced at P6-P8 are taxed P8.96, and brands priced P10 and above are charged P13.44 per pack.

Remulla said his P2 per pack additional tax proposal would translate to about P9 billion more in taxes.

In a separate interview, Rep. Florencio Noel (party-list An Waray) said he was crafting a related proposal pushing for a "single tax rate."

Noel said the single tax rate system was being used in all Southeast Asian countries except the Philippines.

"Collections are simpler because tax rates will be the same for all brands," he said.

In a paper circulated during the committee hearing, Dr. Encarnita Blanco-Limpin of the Philippine College of Chest Physicians said 20,000 Filipinos die each year of tobacco-related diseases.

"That's two or three (Filipinos dying) every hour," she said.

Cigarette smoking has been proven to cause cancer, heart disease, and pregnancy and birth complications, among other ailments. Even passive smokers, or those who inhale the smoke expelled by others, are vulnerable to such diseases.

"Smoking for more than 20 years will reduce your life span by 20 to 25 years," Limpin said.

Remulla noted that while the government earned about P21 billion each year from the sale of tobacco and tobacco products, P46 billion was lost in both private and public health care costs.

He said the P46-billion figure was arrived at by the Department of Health.

A leading cigarette company shared Remulla's view on the weakness of the current tax system.

"With the four-tier classification, when consumers switch to lower-priced brands, government actually collects less," said Philip Morris Philippines in a statement.

MICROVAN

(02) 984-0278/79

MEGA SALE!
on September 23, 2004 • STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP

JOIN THE UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION OF

AUCTION IN MALINTA

TRUCKS • HEAVY EQUIPMENT • MISC. ITEMS

On these dates: **SEPT. 23 - 26, 2004**
STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP

1 of 100 Excavators KOMATSU PC100SS EXCAVATOR	1 of 50 Bulldozers CAT 65H LSP BULLDOZER
1 of 35 Wheel Loaders TCM 75B LOADER	1 of 20 Motor Graders KOMATSU GD37-4H GRADER
1 of 20 Road Rollers KOMATSU JV40C VIBRO ROLLER	1 of 60 Dump Trucks ISUZU 10WDUMP TRUCK
1 of 15 Transit Mixers ISUZU 10W TRANSIT MIXER	1 of 230 Closed Vans FUSO CANTER CLOSED VAN, LATE MODEL
1 of 20 Wing Vans ISUZU 10W WING VAN	1 of 20 Tractor Heads ISUZU 10W TRACTOR HEAD, SINGLE EYE
1 of 25 Ref. Vans FUSO CANTER REF. VAN, LATE MODEL	MISC. TRUCK CABINS, 2 TONS-10 TONS

INSPECTION DATES: **SEPT. 17 - 22, 2004**
For inquiries please call:
(02)984-6741 • (02)984-6753 • (02)984-0215/16

WT-i

100 REASONS

why you should buy a REVO or RAV4

1. They're sporty
2. They're versatile
3. Either will make you look good
4. Adds 100 pug points
5. Easy to drive
6. They're from Toyota
7. They're dependable
8. They're reliable
9. Either can take you to the mall
10. So you have a vehicle to park at the Podium
11. A vehicle to take to the car wash
12. A good looking vehicle to take to the gasoline station
13. So you can go to the office without smelling bad
14. So you can go to the office without getting wet
15. So you can go to the office without getting mugged
16. Even if you go home late, you don't have to worry
17. No more haggling for taxi fare
18. Good for lola
19. Good for lola
20. They're spacious
21. Good for long trips
22. Great for short distance travel
23. Can be used for transporting big cargos
24. Can be used to pick up chicks
25. Can be used to take Bruno the Rottweiler to the vet

26. They're very cool to drive
27. Great for barikada trips
28. Excellent for taking Aimee to cooking class
29. Can be driven in rough road
30. High clearance - was beba
31. Can be used to pull heavy things
32. For lipat-bahay
33. Shopping
34. Pompa-tambay
35. For drive-through
36. For stargazing
37. They're fuel efficient
38. Lasts a long time
39. They come in different colors
40. They come in different variants
41. Could be used to fetch kids
42. Could be used to fetch Tito
43. Could be used to fetch Tito
44. Drive Aileen to work
45. Great for hauling
46. They're stylish
47. Pangpa-macho
48. Pangpa-gwapo
49. Either can take you to the ball game
50. Either can take you to the badminton game



51. Either can take you to the bowling game
52. Either can take you to the soccer field
53. Both can drive you to the movie house
54. Both can drive you to the beach
55. Both can take you trekking to the mountains
56. Either can drive you to the province
57. Both can take you kayaking in the rivers
58. Either is good for city driving
59. Either can take you to the office
60. Either can take you to your barkada's house
61. Either can take you to your girlfriend's house
62. Good for Pangpang trips
63. Good for delivering books
64. Good for delivering itlog na pula
65. Great for delivering shoes
66. Great for delivering clothes
67. Can be used to take ate to the delivery room
68. Good for transporting chairs
69. Transporting beds
70. Transporting pillows
71. School service for O&B
72. Office service for Charlie
73. So you can make your own way
74. Make your friends happy
75. So you can do car-pooling

76. So you can pick up your long time crush
77. So you can have a place to cry
78. A place to shout when you're pissed at work
79. A place to sleep when you're looked outside your house
80. A place to eat with your girlfriend
81. So you can go to Baguio without commuting
82. Go to Tagaytay with teta
83. Go to Ilocos without being harassed
84. Good place to hide
85. Good place to take a nap
86. Make Mama proud
87. Make your neighbors envy
88. Make Anna say "Wow!"
89. They have excellent Toyota engines
90. They have great safety features
91. They can make you look bigger
92. Either can protect you from rain
93. Either can make your date like you more
94. Both can make you look strong
95. Either can be a great gift
96. So your mother-in-law won't look down on you anymore
97. So your sexy neighbor will ride with you more often
98. Maybe either can help you get a girlfriend
99. Maybe either can help you get a boyfriend
100. They're wonderful vehicles

FOR AS LOW AS

P100K!

The Toyota REVO and RAV4. Reliable. Dependable. Versatile. There's practically a hundred ways of using these lifestyle vehicles.

*Own one and do what you please for as low as P100,000 down payment.

RAV 4

VARIANT	SRP	LOW DP	12	18	24	36	48	60
RAV4 4x4 (7.89% dp) A/T	1,268,000	100,000	102,240	70,338	55,805	40,205	32,804	27,836
RAV4 4x4 (50% dp)	1,268,000	634,000	53,784	36,915	29,237	20,973	17,044	14,401
RAV4 4x2 (9.54% dp) M/T	1,048,000	100,000	82,393	56,684	44,979	32,405	26,440	22,433
RAV4 4x2 (50% dp)	1,048,000	524,000	43,913	30,140	23,877	17,128	13,919	11,758

REVO

VARIANT	SRP	LOW DP	12	18	24	36	48	60
VX200 2.0 GAS A/T	970,000	100,000	74,910	51,536	40,902	29,468	24,043	20,396
VX240 2.4 DSL	958,000	100,000	76,507	52,635	41,745	30,075	24,539	20,830
SR 1.8 GAS A/T	896,000	100,000	68,235	46,944	37,260	26,844	21,903	18,578
GSX 2.0 GAS A/T	847,000	100,000	63,815	43,902	34,849	25,107	20,485	17,375
GLX 1.8 GAS A/T	807,000	100,000	60,206	41,420	32,881	23,689	19,328	16,392
GL GAS	698,000	100,000	50,373	34,655	27,517	19,824	16,175	13,715
DLX GAS (15.08%dp)	663,000	100,000	47,218	32,483	25,794	18,584	15,163	12,855
DLX GAS (50%dp)	663,000	331,500	27,625	18,417	14,261	10,230	8,313	7,014
DLX DSL	690,000	100,000	52,331	36,002	28,556	20,573	16,786	14,248

FINANCING DEALS:

- Down payment for as low as P100,000 for all participating REVO and RAV4 variants.
- Low monthly payments of P11,758 for the RAV4 4x2 for 60 months at 50% down payment.
- Low monthly payments of P14,401 for the RAV4 4x4 for 60 months at 50% down payment.
- Low monthly payments of only P7,014 for the REVO DLX Gas for 60 months at 50% down payment.
- Low monthly interest rates.

For areas covered by Toyota Financial Services



FOR A TOYOTA, GO TO TOYOTA.

Promo period is from September 15 to 30, 2004.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2057 Series of 2004.



TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 058-8500

TOYOTA ALABANG, INC., Alabang-Taguig Rd. cor. Canillo Cuz Drive 898-0901 to 32 / 082-1991 TOYOTA BACOLOD CITY, Gandarville Subdivision, Aragona St., Bacolod City (034) 444-1811 to 13 TOYOTA BAGUIO CITY, Botolan Road cor. Agudo St., Baguio City (044) 447-0851 / (024) 300-3273 to 74 / (074) 300-4120 / 3825 / (074) 443-6778 TOYOTA BALINTAWAN, INC., EDSA cor. Victoria Ave. & Gen. Luna Highway, Balintawan City (043) 723-7366 / (043) 723-7639
1010 E. Manila De Los Santos Ave. (EDSA) Quezon City 927-7215 / 17 / 30 / 39 / 927-7242 / 44 / 48 / 52 / 927-7257 / 62 / 65 / 927-7268 / 69 TOYOTA BALANGAS CITY, INC., Diversion Road, Balangas City (043) 723-7366 / (043) 723-7639
TOYOTA CABANATUAN CITY, INC., Km. 118 Maharlika Highway, Davao Surab, Cabanatuan City (044) 463-8481 to 87 TOYOTA CAGAYAN DE ORO, INC., Km. 3 National Highway, Kauswagan, Cagayan de Oro City (0822) 725-770 / 731 / 846 / (084) 858-9994 / (086) 856-7770
(0822) 737-460 TOYOTA CEBU CITY, INC., 34 M.J. Cojuangco St., Cebu City (032) 253-1161 TOYOTA CERU-MARDAUE, Talok, Mardauke City (032) 345-9870 TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH, Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City 952-1021 to 27 TOYOTA CUBAO, INC., 976 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City 911-9551 to 63 TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, INC., Diversion Road, Barangay San Miguel, Davao City (082) 234-0998 / (082) 234-2994 / (082) 234-8610 TOYOTA DILIMAN CITY, INC., Green Pines Subd., Jeep Roads City (033) 320-6115 to 19
Dasmariñas, Cavite (046) 850-2557 / (02) 529-6115 (trunk line) TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, INC., Km. 6.1 Luzon, Davao City (082) 234-0998 / (082) 234-2994 / (082) 234-8610 TOYOTA DILIMAN CITY, INC., Green Pines Subd., Jeep Roads City (033) 320-6115 to 19
TOYOTA HAKATI, INC., Ayala cor. Alibonjan Avenue, Makati City 897-3333 TOYOTA MANILA BAY CORP., Roxas Boulevard cor. EDSA Extension, Pasay City 832-3400 to 10 / 832-3432 to 34 / 832-3384 / 832-3437 TOYOTA MARIKINA SERVICE STATION, Bay Side Iona Subdivision Highway cor. Toyota Ave., Marikina City 682-9701 to 82 TOYOTA OROS, INC., 1770 Pura M. Guzman St., Puro, Manila 564-1811 to 20 TOYOTA PASONG TAMO, INC., 2292 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City 893-8084 TOYOTA QUEZON AVENUE, INC., 728 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City 712-5001 to 95 TOYOTA SHAW, INC., 3899 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City 532-4132 / 532-8428 / 534-3009 (Malabon) TOYOTA SHAW-ORTIGAS, 1241 L. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Bo. Uplong, Pasig City 671-9834 to 54 / 671-0480





MT 7100 UT 6800

INFINITE SYSTEMS Call for FREE DEMO 892-9073 to 77

New PNP posts for 'floating' officers

By Christian V. Esguerra

THREE high ranking officers of the Philippine National Police on "floating" status for a long time because of their close association with opposition Sen. Panfilo Lacson, will finally get

a chance to return to active service.

PNP chief Edgar Aglipay yesterday said that, in the spirit of reconciliation, he would soon give key assignments to Directors Lucas Managuelod, Victor Batac and Reynaldo Acop, among Lacson's most trusted lieutenants when he was PNP chief.

"It's high time that we reconcile," he told reporters in Manila.

Aglipay said he would appoint Managuelod as president of the Public Safety Mutual Benefit Fund Inc. and Batac and Acop to the Senior Officers Promotions and Appointments Board.

"These will just serve as initial assign-

ments," he explained. "Later on, we'll give them better assignments."

Though not particularly excited about the assignment, Managuelod said he was thanking Aglipay for "repairing the damage done" by his predecessor, retired Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr.

"As a professional officer, I'll report as soon as I receive an order," he told the Inquirer. "It's my job. I won't choose assignments."

Managuelod blamed Ebdane for sacking him for "no apparent reason" as head of the Directorate for Investigation and Detective Management in January 2003. He has since been "semi-retired" and on floating status.

Batac and Acop, Aglipay and Lacson's classmates at Philippine Military Academy Class 1971, had been suffering much longer.

Both officers have been with the Headquarters Support Service, widely considered as the dumping ground for officers unwelcome by the incumbent PNP leadership or by Malacañang, since Jan. 23, 2001.

Before that, Batac headed the Directorate for Police Community Relations and Acop, the Directorate for Personnel Records Management.

Managuelod and company were convinced they were sacked simply because of their association with Lacson, then a fierce critic of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

"When he left the PNP, Ebdane claimed his greatest achievement was the unity he established within the organization," Managuelod said. "But there's really no 'one PNP' to speak of. He was himself a cause of disunity."

Among the 10 PNP directors (two-star generals), Batac is the most senior, having gotten his second star on Dec. 22, 1998. Acop is second because he was promoted on Aug. 21, 2000.

Managuelod is tied with Director Ricardo de Leon, the PNP's new point man against illegal drugs, at third. They got their promotions on Sept. 3 the following year.

Managuelod will reach his mandatory retirement age of 56 on March 9, Acop on June 18 and Batac on Dec. 15 next year.

Managuelod urged Aglipay to grant similar opportunities to other "floating" officers.

Drop in kidnap cases reported

By Christian V. Esguerra

KIDNAPPING cases involving members of the Chinese-Filipino community nationwide have dropped by as much as 50 percent this year, a group of businessmen said yesterday.

In fact, the Chinese Filipino Business Club Inc., an organization of around 1,000 businessmen nationwide, said it had not received any report of kidnapping in the past two to three weeks.

"Really there was a big drop," the group's spokesperson Daniel Laogan told reporters, citing informal survey among members of the Chinese Filipino community.

"I'll tell you the truth. For the last two to three weeks, we have not heard of any live kidnapping cases."

Asked if victims probably just didn't want to report cases, Laogan said he and his group would have their way of knowing if there were indeed unreported kidnapping incidents.

"We in the community are basically chismosos," he said. "We usually learn about cases within 24 hours. But there have been no rumors about live cases whatsoever."

Laogan could not immediately produce available data on kidnapping cases involving Chinese-Filipinos to show that incidents had indeed been slashed by half this year.

Despite the absence of exact figures, his group commended the increased police visibility, especially in Metro Manila, for the purported drop.

"If this measure continues," Laogan said, "we believe kidnapping cases would drop even further."

The Philippine National Police has been on 24-hour patrol of urban centers and other densely populated areas since Deputy Director General Edgar Aglipay replaced Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. last Aug. 23.

Aglipay yesterday said kidnapping cases might have indeed dropped by 50 percent, but asked Chinese-Filipinos to "knock on wood."

Mananquil; 86

MAURA Capad Guillermo-Mananquil, mother of Press Undersecretary and former Vice Mayor Robert Mananquil and mother-in-law of Star associate and lifestyle editor Miller Martinez-Mananquil, died on Saturday. She was 86.

She is the widow of Marcos Tirsay Mananquil. Her other children are municipal assessor Emmanuel Mananquil, Paz M. Chavez, Teresa M. Barretto and US-based daughters Zenaida M. Jimenez, Lilia M. Brown and Edna M. Brown.

Her remains lie at the family residence in Barangay San Roque in La Paz, Tarlac. She will be buried today at the La Paz Cemetery after an 8 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Peace Parish Church.

We Supply HARD-TO-FIND Foods!!!

1. Potato Balls	6. Stuffed Shrimps
2. Asstd HK Dimsum	7. 5-in-1 Balls
3. Buchi Red/Uve	8. 3 Kinds of Meat Balls
4. Fun-Shaped Chicken Nuggets	9. Beef Footlong
5. Nachos & Display Warmers	10. Chicken Balls
	11. French Fries

Pls. Call MOSES 734-9088/7349114

GO WITH THE NAME YOU KNOW!

Study at **VERNON TAPALLA'S COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS and THE WRITING INSTITUTE**

50% OFF

SCB CP1 The Success & Confidence Building Program On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development

CP2 On Grammar & Conversational English

CP3 On Public Speaking & Leadership Training

WP1 On Business & Technical Writing

WP2 On Feature & Creative Writing

JCP On Speech, Grammar, Public Speaking, Confidence Bldg., Personality Dev't., Reading and Comprehension for Kids

PRIVATE TUTORING & CORPORATE TRAINING ARE AVAILABLE

MAKATI - 845-0886 / 753-1049 ALABANG - 753-1048

IWATA TIME RECORDERS

DURABLE & RELIABLE, ALMOST 20 YEARS IN THE MARKET NOW

FREE DEMO

Operates during interruptions

Uses 8 Columns Time Card

P9,300.00 Model: CW-1A

P12,850.00 Model: CW-1A

P9,500.00 Model: CW-1A

2nd year printing for Loto

Black for Practical

VERY HEAVY DUTY

SOLE DISTRIBUTOR

COLENT ENTERPRISE CO.

Tel: 411-4217, 740-3815, 742-8139 to 41, 411-2390 to 50

Fax 411-2399 E-mail: coalent@net.com.ph

SPEECHPOWER

OCTOBER TWO-WEEK INTENSIVE PROGRAM 2004

CLASSES BEGIN ON OCTOBER 18

- English Conversation Fluency
- Intensive Pronunciation Course
- English Conversation Practice
- English for Foreigners
- Intensive Grammar Review
- Writing for Business Purposes
- Oral Presentation Skills
- Vocabulary Enrichment Course
- Speed Reading & Comprehension
- Acquiring American Accent

- Private Tutoring
- Private Coaching
- Choices of Corporate Communication Courses

Cebu 911-0832 911-0833 911-0834

España 735-7256 735-7262 735-7312

Tel 521-3601 525-5310

www.speechpower.com.ph

COPIERS Sales/Rentals

KUBOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin

Also Available: LIQUID COPIERS

P15,000.00 ONLY POWER TYPE FT 3213 BEST FOR BUSINESS

P15,000.00 ONLY BRAND NEW CANON FC 250 FOR PERSONAL USE

P15,000.00 ONLY BRAND NEW FULL COLOR DIGITAL COPIER

P15,000.00 ONLY BRAND NEW KUBOH FT 3213 BEST FOR BUSINESS

COPYTRADE

Copytrade Bldg. 506 MF Jucoson St. San Roque, Marikina (Beside MRT Line 1)

Tel: 748-8755 to 50 741-3472 748-8216

www.copytrade.com.ph

LIFETIME BUSINESS!

Start a Water Refilling Business Right with the Company that gives you State-of-the-Art Water Purification and Filtration Equipment guaranteed quality for a lifetime.

WATER RESOURCES, INC.

121 Kuningan Rd., G.C. Edsa, Alabang, M.C. (near the intersection of EDSA and Alabang Road)

Call: 858-5776 858-5790

Tel or Call: (02) 858-5776 (02) 858-5790

WE DELIVER!

Philippine Daily Inquirer

Call: 528-0183 528-0186

Philippine Daily Inquirer

1400 Robinson Road, 14th Floor, Robinsons Mall, Manila

Philippine Daily Inquirer

1400 Robinson Road, 14th Floor, Robinsons Mall, Manila

Lakeside Farms

Tropical Farming and Fishing Village

San Buenaventura San Pablo City

Sweet Lanzones Festival

SEPT. 25, 2004 9:00 AM

Avail of 50% off on reservation fee! Get Lanzones fruit FREE for every reservation.

FREE 40 sq.m. semi-permanent rest house for every lot purchase

CALL Nos: 807-8405/ 842-3671

ROVER SYSTEMS DIGITAL CCTV RECORDERS

features

- Replaces Analog Video Processor
- A Time Lapse VCR
- Record events in a removable IDE Hard Disk
- Instant search by camera No., Date & Time
- Continuous recording from 8 hrs. to maximum of 1600 hrs. using 80 GB hard disk
- Capable of scheduled & event recording
- Built-in Video loss detection
- DVR Supports 1 up to 16 cameras

OTHER PRODUCTS

Surveillance Cameras

Monitors

Digital Video Recorders

Other CCTV Accessories

Showrooms

ROVER SYSTEMS (PASIG) 158 5th St. (near Pasig City Hall) Pasig City Tel: (02) 638-3859

ROVER SYSTEMS (MAKATI) 341 4th St. (near Makati City Hall) Makati City Tel: (02) 638-3859

ROVER SYSTEMS (PORT BONIFACE) 341 4th St. (near Port Boniface City Hall) Port Boniface City Tel: (02) 638-3859

FaireTech #49 E. Fernandez St., San Juan, Metro Manila Tel: (02) 723-7959 Fax: 724-5898

Faire Technologies Inc. Cel No: 0917-8364491 E-mail: info@fairetech.com

ROTORCOMP Screw Air Compressor

Made by Bauer of Germany

- Below 2ppm Oil Discharge
- 10 to 600 HP (7 to 12 Bars)
- Tropicalized Cooling System
- 30 % Larger than Standard
- Air Ends w/ Rolling Profile
- 10 yrs. Warranty
- Steel Tube Wiping, no hose connections
- Oil separator & Filter Changed in Minutes

SWAN Air Compressors

- One year warranty
- Air cooled 2HP to 30 HP
- Single stage & two stage models
- Heavy duty cast iron construction
- High volume discharge at low RPM
- Automatic unloader & pressure switch system

Compressed Air Dryer

J2K Series, Non-regenerative Type

BLOWERS AND VACUUM BOOSTERS

LONGTECH Made in Taiwan

KAWAKE RING BLOWER

- Capacity up to 200 m³/hr
- For Blowing and Vacuum
- Applications:
 - Waterwheel Treatment
 - Chemical / Gas Processing
 - Environmental
 - Pressure Washing
 - Industrial
 - Food Processing
 - and many more

VICTOR HARDWARE 887-888 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City, Philippines Tel: (02) 743-4761 Fax: 743-4587 743-4100

DLI GENERICS SINCE 1986

Quality na gamot, sa presyong mas abot!!!

Suggested Retail Price August 8, 2004 • Makatitipid ng hindi sa 50%.

Analgesic/Antipyretic (Para sa kinal, lagnat o brangkas)	DLI	Leading Brand	Savings
Mefenamic Acid susp. 50 mg/5 ml 80 ml	24.00	104.00	80.00/bot
Mefenamic Acid tab. 500 mg	1.70	20.85	19.15/tab
Paracetamol susp. 125 mg/5 ml 60 ml	21.70	63.50	41.80/bot
Paracetamol tab 500 mg	0.60	2.45	1.85/tab
Anti-biotic (Kontra-Bakterya)			
Amoxicillin cap. 250 mg	2.80	8.95	6.15/cap
Amoxicillin cap. 500 mg	3.70	15.75	12.05/cap
Amoxicillin susp. 250 mg/5 ml, 80 ml	45.10	144.00	98.90/bot
Ampicillin cap. 500 mg	6.50	14.10	7.60/cap
Chloramphenicol cap. 500 mg	3.20	37.76	34.56/cap
Chloramphenicol susp. 125 mg/5 ml 60 ml	40.40	394.78	254.38/bot
Co-trimoxazole tab (TM-160mg SMZ-400mg)	2.30	25.00	22.70/tab
Co-trimoxazole cap. (TM-160mg SMZ-400mg)	2.60	14.80	12.20/cap
Co-trimoxazole susp. (TM-40mg SMZ-200mg)	25.40	115.75	90.35/bot
Anti-cough (Para sa Ubo)			
Bromhexine HCL syrup 4 mg/5 ml, 80 ml	26.70	74.75	48.05/bot
Carbocistene cap. 500 mg	2.40	12.25	9.85/cap
Carbocistene susp. 100 mg/5 ml, 80 ml	32.70	87.25	54.55/bot
Anti-diarrhea (Para sa pagtatae)			
Loperamide cap. 2mg	1.80	10.25	8.45/cap

Mabibili sa sumusunod at sa mga botikang abot-kaya ang halaga.

Muwag pagpapalit sa ibal Managil ang tatak DLI. If out of stock, call 711-3933 712-4990 743-1636

Watsons EMILENE PHARMACY Carlos SUPERDRUG Rose Pharmacy

For factory prices visit: www.DLI-Generics.com for complete product & price information

ABIVA Publishing House, Inc. appeals to the copyright owners/holders of the following artworks, which are to be included in a series of Music, Art and Physical Education textbooks entitled *Sing, Sketch, Stretch*.

Alcala, Larry - Maytime in Antipolo from "Slice of Life"; Amores, Fernando - Antipolo, Planting Rice, Resting in the Shade, Women with Gold Pendant, Women Washing Clothes, Tinkling: Self Portrait; Ang Kiskak - Men on Fire; Gansco - Baby-batay; Francisco, Carlos - "Batang" - Bonifacio Mural; Jaya Jane - Old Women, Ceramic Fish; Legaspi, Cesar - Family, Verdant Landscape; Leynes, Nestor - Mag-in sa Buring; Lopez, CV - Tinkling; Laurean, Diosdado - Landscape; Macanaza, Vicente - Glim Us This Day Our Daily Bread; Medina, Fel Jr. - Pagan Baby; Miranda, Nemi - Solokab; Navarro, Oscar - Biking-alwayway, Harvest, Lalandan; Ocampo, Bernado - Promenade; Oatis, Omedeo - Mother and Child; Santos, Mauro - "Makab" - Landscape; Serna - Paganbaby; Velazquez, Antonio - Kaskay (May 11, 1958)

Any information that will enable the publisher to locate the said copyright holders will be most welcome.

ABIVA PUBLISHING HOUSE, INC.
Abiva Bldg. 851 G. Araneta Ave. 1113 Quezon City
Tel: (02) 712-0245 Fax: (632) 732-0308 Cellphone: 0922-8068292
E-mail: abivabooks@hotmail.com

like myself

We will show you how.

Success. Friends. Confidence. You can have it all.

Power Programs. Personality Development.

Executive Coaching. Corporate Training. Modeling. Acting.

Earn the worldwide John Robert Powers diploma.

CALL NOW. 892 9511

John Robert Powers www.johnrobertpowers.com

Casero Building, 195 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati

CONVENIENT PARKING NEARBY

GET ON WITH LIFE. START TODAY. FREE CONSULTATION!

Definitely. Positively. Absolutely.

**Now, there is a remarkable,
affordable home at the Fort for you.**

From the developers of Essensa
East Forbes, judged by Asiaweek
as the best residential building
in the Philippines, comes another
breakthrough development ...

**SoMa, or South of Market,
at Fort Bonifacio, Global City**



SOUTH of MARKET

The Exceptional, Logical Choice



818-9025 • 893-7050

Garcia, sis under fire over P5M in advances

From page A1

an atrocious salary and allowance. She prepares the disbursement vouchers for the approval of her brother. This alone is already an auditing no-no," he said.

At a press conference where he was joined by officials of the Kapisanan ng mga Manggagawa sa GSIS, Suplico said he filed Resolution No. 276 calling for an inquiry into the alleged mismanagement and misuse of funds by GSIS officials.

Representatives Benasag Macarambon (NPC, Lanao del Sur), Eduardo Veloso (NPC, Leyte) and Marcelino Libanan (Lakas, Eastern Samar) were co-sponsors of the resolution.

Solid and growing

Officials of the GSIS welcomed a House probe.

"(I)t will surely show that under the present management, GSIS finances are sound, solid and growing. In fact in the year 2000, GSIS had a net income of

only P20 billion compared with the P35-billion net income in 2003 under the incumbency of Winston Garcia as audited by the Commission on Audit," GSIS executive vice president Rey Palmieri said in a statement.

At the press conference, reporters were furnished copies of cash advances and vouchers signed by Garcia and his sister.

Suplico said that next to Garcia, Empemano was the second most powerful person in the GSIS. She was also a member of the GSIS Personnel, Selection and Promotions Board.

Documents showed that in his first four months in office in 2001, Garcia made cash advances totaling P9.34 million broken down as follows: Land Bank Check No. 212159 dated Feb. 9, 2001, P500,000; Land Bank Check No. 215261 dated April 5, 2001, P1 million, Land Bank Check No. 215707 dated April 18, 2001, P840,000, and Land Bank Check No. 218878 dated June 11, 2001, P1 million.

In December 2001, Garcia again made additional cash advances totaling P1.9 million as reflected in Land Bank Check No. 231401 (Dec. 6), P150,000; Land Bank Check No. 231938 (Dec. 10), P1 million, and Land Bank Check No. 232303 (Dec. 14), P760,000.

Self-serving certification

Suplico said Garcia had not shown how he spent the money and merely presented a one-page "self-serving certification" that said he used such a huge amount

"in relation to or by reason of my position as president and general manager of the Government Service and Insurance System."

"This must be the shortest liquidation of the largest cash advances in the entire country. Or is it Winston's pork barrel?" Suplico said.

He said another auditing no-no was the absence of explanations that accompany disbursements.

Suplico said Garcia's discretionary cash advances were both unlawful and illegal.

Of the eight disbursement or liquidation vouchers, seven had been certified by Empemano while one voucher was certified by Garcia as the disbursing officer himself.

The lawmaker said Garcia manipulated accounting rules to benefit himself.

Nothing irregular

GSIS senior vice president Enriqueta Disuanco defended Garcia.

"There is nothing wrong or irregular for heads of government agencies and corporations to make cash advances because these are normal financial activities, as long as these advances are properly liquidated in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commission on Audit," she said in a statement.

Disuanco said only the COA could question the legality and propriety of the disbursements.

"In the case of the GSIS, all cash advances were liquidated within the prescribed period and passed in audit by the COA," she said. "These are issues raised year in and year out by critics who are out

to discredit the gains achieved by the GSIS in the past three years."

Salaries of other GSIS execs

Suplico said the salaries of other GSIS officials were almost similar to executives of government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs).

For example, the salary of Reynaldo Palmieri, executive vice president, was P279,482; Arnaldo Quasay, senior vice president-housing, P166,734; Enriqueta Disuanco, senior vice president-social insurance, P166,734; Leticia Sagcal, senior vice president-internal audit, P166,734, and Benjamin Vivas, senior vice president-information technology, P150,211.

J. Fernando Campana, vice president-human resources, P151,450; Alex Valencina, vice president-branches, P138,945; Elia Valencina, vice president-public relations, P110,775, and Felicidad Gutierrez, vice president-human resources, P110,775.

Palmieri took exception to claims that the salaries of the GSIS executives were excessive or immoral.

He said the salaries of GSIS executives were comparable to executives in large financial corporations handling billions of pesos in corporate funds owned by its members and stockholders.

"We cannot just toy with the pension funds of more than one million GSIS employees who depend on the GSIS for their decent survival after retirement," Palmieri said.

He said the GSIS must have executives of proven competence, experience and integrity to run

the pension fund. "To place the GSIS in the hands of improperly trained and inexperienced personnel just because they are willing to accept substandard pay would be the height of irresponsibility, and a betrayal of the GSIS members' trust," he said.

Palmieri urged the public, especially GSIS members, not to be taken in by mere accusations and speculations designed to attract public attention.

"We will also show that all those scurrilous attacks of alleged immorality and lavish expenditures by the GSIS are without basis and are mere figments of the imagination of those who wish us ill," he said.

Amid the public outcry over the huge salaries of executives of GOCCs and government financial institutions, President Macapagal-Arroyo ordered last week her nominees to the agencies to trim their compensation and observe her austerity program.

Heeding Ms Arroyo's call, Garcia said he was voluntarily giving up P160,000 of his monthly take-home pay of P200,000.

Complaint

Suplico also showed a complaint filed by George Ramos, the GSIS resident ombudsman, against Garcia on May 7, 2001 for driving him out of the building.

In his letter to Malacañang, Ramos said Garcia padlocked his office in his absence and without sufficient reason shortly after the resident ombudsman filed a case against Garcia for violation of the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act.

ANOS FIRETRUCK
A Filipino Invention

BUY PINOY
Save Dollars

ANOS RESEARCH MFG. 84 Apo St. Cor. Quizon Ave. Sta Mesa Heights, Q.C.
Tel. 741-4319; 413-2919; 413-6597 Telefax: 742-3102

NIBOR
CASH for DIAMONDS
Nibor Diamond Buying Office of the Philippines

For further information contact
INTERNATIONALLY
EXPERIENCED
GEMOLOGISTS

- INSTANT CASH for 1 1/2 carat & above, antiques and modern jewelry. Also old-cut diamonds.
- WE ACCEPT LOANS on important diamonds and jewelry.

ALL TRANSACTIONS KEPT CONFIDENTIAL
Tel. Nos.: 725-1823/726-1931 Mobile No.: (0917) 536-2456
Monday-Sunday 10am-5pm
Capital Jewelry At The Jewellery, Greenhills Shopping Center, San Juan, M.M.

Join us as the leading wineries of the world gather under our roof to celebrate

TOAST 2004 The Wine Festival

OCTOBER 2, 2004

ALL DAY EVENTS:

- REGISTRATION
- TRADE SHOW
- MEET THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE WINES
- STONEHAVEN WINE MAKING GAME
- TRY YOUR HAND AT BEING A WINEMAKER
- TOP DROP RATING
- MEET THE WINNERS BOOTHS AND VOTE FOR THE TOP RED AND WHITE OF THE SHOW!
- BLIND TASTING
- TEST YOUR WINE SKILLS, GUESS THE WINE, WIN A PRIZE!

SCHEDULED EVENTS:

- 10:30 OPENING
- 12:00 LUNCH
- SELECTION OF RESTAURANTS ON OFFER
- 3:30 CABERNET SAUVIGNON CHALLENGE
- NOTE FOR THE BEST CABERNET SAUVIGNON OF THE SHOW
- 4:00 FILM: BACK VINTAGE TASTING
- TASTE PAST VINTAGES OF ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S FINEST SHIRAZ
- 6:00 OYSTERS AND WINES
- ENJOY OYSTER BAR ROCKWELL'S OYSTERS WITH THEIR CHOICE WINES.
- 8:00 CLOSE

*PRIZE EVENTS

GET A CHANCE TO WIN AN AUSTRALIAN WINE EXPERIENCE HOLIDAY FOR TWO!

Where else? Where all the good wines are...

WINE DEPOT

WINE DEPOT BLDG., ANAVALA AVE. CORNER BULWAT ST., MAKATI CITY
TEL. # 883-3335 / 837-1348 FAX 883-3883
www.windepot.com.ph

Cebu leg on October 4, 2004 at the Marriott Hotel Cebu
10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM

FOR ALL YOUR AUTO REPAIR AND SERVICE NEEDS...

NAME IT! WE'VE GOT IT!

Anson Auto Service Center

LOWEST PRICE YOU EXPECT IN THE TIME YOU WANT

DRIVE IN FOR A CHECK-UP!

SEE THE DIFFERENCE AND FEEL THE RESULTS.

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

AYALA CENTER, A. ARNAIZ AVENUE (FORMERLY PASAY ROAD), CORNER WEST DRIVE, MAKATI CITY

8922212 • 8922213 • 8922214
8867552 • 8867551

OPEN MONDAY TO SUNDAY

A. ARNAIZ AVE. (FORMERLY PASAY ROAD)

THIS WAY

ANSON AUTO SERVICE CENTER

PARKING

ANSON ESPORIUM

PARKING

AYALA B3 TERMINAL

PARK SQUARE 3

THIS WAY

ensure "maximum profit and business success."

In a 21-page resolution dated Sept. 17, the court's Second Division denied the petition of Pedro A. Tecson, a medical representative of Glaxo Wellcome Philippines Inc., who complained that he was constructively dismissed when he was reassigned to another sales area because he had married Betsy Tecson, an employee of Astra Pharmaceuticals, Glaxo's competitor.

Corporate right

The tribunal said Glaxo's prohibition against marital or personal relationships with employees of competitor companies was legal and Tecson's petition lacked merit.

"Glaxo has a right to guard its trade secrets, manufacturing formulas, marketing strategies and other confidential programs and information from competitors, especially so since it and Astra are rival companies in the highly competitive pharmaceutical industry," according to the resolution penned by Justice Dante Tinga.

"The policy being questioned is not a policy against marriage. An employee of the company remains free to marry anyone of his or her choosing... However, an employee's personal decision does not detract the employer from exercising management prerogatives to ensure maximum profit and business success," it added.

Conflict of interest

The tribunal noted that the wording of Glaxo's contractual provisions and employee handbook showed that it did not impose an absolute prohibition against such relations, but merely sought to avoid conflict of interest between the employee and the company that could arise.

"(The Constitution) recognizes the right of enterprises to adopt and enforce such a policy to protect their

right to reasonable returns on investments and to expansion and growth," the court said.

"The law also recognizes that management has rights, which are also entitled to respect and enforcement in the interest of fair play," it added.

Tecson had been with Glaxo since 1995 and was assigned to the Camarines Sur-Camarines Norte sales area in the Bicol region. There he met and courted Betsy, who supervised Astra's district managers and medical representatives and prepared marketing strategies in the area.

"Even before they got married, Tecson received several reminders from his district manager regarding the conflict of interest which his relationship with Betsy might engender. Still, love prevailed, and Tecson married Betsy in September 1998," the tribunal said.

One must quit

In January 1999, Tecson's superiors informed him that his marriage to Betsy gave rise to a conflict of interest.

They reminded him that he and Betsy should decide which one of them would resign from their job, "although they told him they wanted to retain him as much as possible because he was performing well in his job," the court said.

Tecson asked for time to review his and his wife's options but in November 1999, Glaxo transferred him to the Butuan City-Surigao City-Agusan del Sur sales area in northern Mindanao.

Tecson asked Glaxo to reconsider its decision but his request was denied. Tecson defied his transfer order and continued to work in Bicol.

While he appealed his transfer to the Glaxo grievance committee, Tecson was paid his salary but was not issued samples of Glaxo products

which were in competition with those of Astra. He was also not included in conferences about those products.

Arbitration

However, the two parties could not agree and they submitted the matter for voluntary arbitration. Glaxo offered Tecson a P50,000 separation pay but he refused.

In November 2000, the National Conciliation and Mediation Board (NCMB) ruled that Glaxo's policy was valid and it had the right to transfer Tecson. He appealed to the Court of Appeals but last year it too ruled against him.

This prompted Tecson to go to the Supreme Court, which upheld Glaxo's action.

The court noted Glaxo enforced its no-marriage-with-rivals policy only after repeated requests for Tecson to comply with the transfer order.

It said the policy was implemented in an "impartial and even-handed manner, with due regard to the employee."

The court said that Tecson was given several months to remedy the situation, and was even encouraged "not to resign" but to ask his wife to resign from Astra instead.

It said Tecson also knew of Glaxo's policy even before the firm hired him.

"Therefore, he was aware of that restriction when he signed his employment contract and when he married his wife," the court said.

"Tecson signed a contract that stipulates, among others, that he agrees to disclose to management any existing or future relationship by consanguinity or affinity with co-employees or employees of competing drug companies, and should management find that such relationship poses a possible conflict of interest, to resign from the company," it added.

The court also said that a similar provision was included in the code of conduct of Glaxo's employees.

Enjoy a **GLOBUS** European Adventure this Holiday Season

Experience the Merry Celebrations!

CHRISTMAS TIME AT LONDON'S WALDORF HILTON • CHRISTMAS TIME IN ENGLAND
• CHRISTMAS TIME IN BAVARIA & ALSACE • CHRISTMAS TIME IN IRELAND
• CHRISTMAS TIME IN MUNICH & EASTERN EUROPE

A WEEK IN ROME - HOTEL CICERONE
A WEEK IN ROME - HOTEL CLARIDGE
A WEEK IN LONDON - HILTON LONDON METROPOLE
A WEEK IN LONDON - RAMADA HYDE PARK
A WEEK IN LONDON & PARIS
BRITAIN SAMPLER
INTRODUCTION TO IRELAND
THE BEST OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND
EUROPEAN SAMPLER
ESSENTIAL EUROPE

CONTINENTAL INTRODUCTION
OLD WORLD CLASSICS
EUROPE IN DEPTH
ITALY AT LEISURE
CLASSICAL GREECE
THE BEST OF SOUTHERN ITALY
ITALIAN MOSAIC INC. SORRENTO EXTENSION
ITALIAN MOSAIC
ITALY'S GREAT CITIES
ITALIAN TREASURES

For inquiries and reservations:

GLOBUS, WINTER VACATIONS departures are available from NOVEMBER 2004 to APRIL 2006

the baron  travel corporation

Main Office: Cityland 10 Tower 2 Ayala Ave., North Cot. Dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City Tel. No. 817-4925 Fax: 819-2993
E-mail: ftd@barontavel.com.ph
Cebu Branch: Suite 1 & 2 Cebu Capitol Com'l Complex Cebu City
Tel. No. 245-5378 / 255-8095 Fax: 254-5344
E-mail: bto-outbound@pacific.net.ph

DOT Accreditation No. TO-037-2004

SoMa Principle: You don't have to be very rich to live at the Fort. Just very smart.



After Essensa, SoMa. A 37-storey twin tower residential development in Fort Bonifacio. The ONLY fully-fitted and completely furnished residential condo in the Philippines. Expectedly remarkable. Surprisingly affordable.

From the developers of Essensa, recognized by Aslaweek as the best residential building in the Philippines, comes another breakthrough development. South of Market, or SoMa for short. It's for smart buyers who wish to get a more luxurious home without investing in too much money. With unit prices starting at only P2.9 Million, SoMa offers exceptional value.

South of Market has been carefully planned with condominium users in mind. All units are corner units, allowing for spectacular views from all bedrooms and living areas. Additionally, with all units coming in fully-fitted and fully-furnished, living starts when the unit is turned over. No messy outfittings. No time wasted buying appliances and fixtures. It's the new way of owning a condo.

Each unit at SoMa comes complete with air-conditioning in each bedroom, kitchen cabinetry, a refrigerator, cooktop, rangehood and microwave, a Sony flatscreen TV, a DVD player, an entertainment sound system, and a dining and living room set. Visit our model units at the 6th Floor of the Pacific Star Building in Makati to experience it all.

Check out SoMa - It's an exceptional residence at an exceptionally good price.

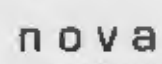
SoMa Location Map



Proponents:



Project Managers:



Exclusive Marketing Managers:



818-9025
893-7050

Model units located at the 6th floor, Pacific Star Building, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave corner Makati Ave, Makati City. Open Mondays to Fridays 10am to 7pm.

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Kerry blasts Bush over Iraq invasion

NEW YORK—Democratic presidential contender John Kerry accused President George W. Bush of creating a "crisis of historic proportions" as infighting over Iraq dominated the US election campaign.

Kerry's strongest attack yet on Bush's action in Iraq came a day ahead of the US president's Tuesday address to the UN General Assembly, where he was again expected to seek to justify the March 2003 invasion to oust Saddam Hussein.

The Massachusetts senator called for a national debate on Iraq and the war on terror.

But while repeating a hope to replace US troops with soldiers from other countries and Iraqi security forces, Kerry added no new proposals on how to handle the crisis where the US military is suffering a mounting toll.

In a speech at New York University,

Kerry said Iraq had become a "profound diversion" from the war on terror "and the battle against our greatest enemy, Osama bin Laden and the terrorists."

"Invading Iraq has created a crisis of historic proportions and, if we do not change course, there is the prospect of a war with no end in sight," said Kerry, who is battling to unseat Bush in the Nov. 2 election.

Kerry conceded that "some progress" has been made in Iraq, "but most Iraqis have lost faith in our ability to deliver meaningful improvements to their lives."

Bush has acknowledged that miscalculations were made in Iraq, but Kerry said: "That is one of the greatest understatements in recent American history."

"His were not the equivalent of accounting errors. They were colossal failures of judgment and judgment is what we look for in a president."

Bush struck back at Kerry, saying

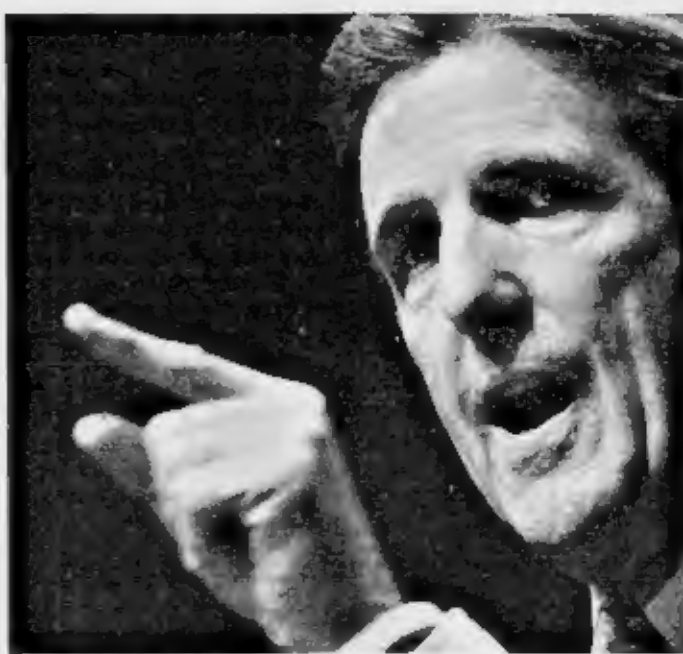
the Democrat lacks new ideas for ending deadly chaos in Iraq.

"Forty-three days before the election, my opponent has now suddenly settled on a proposal for what to do next—and it's exactly what we're currently doing," Bush told supporters at a rally in New Hampshire.

"We're working with the international partners, we're training Iraqi troops, we're reconstructing the (country), we're preparing for elections. We're going to have elections in January," Bush said.

Bush said Kerry "prefers the stability of a dictatorship to the hope and security of democracy. I couldn't disagree more."

"And not so long ago, so did my opponent," he added, quoting Kerry as saying in December that those doubting whether the world would be better off without Saddam Hussein "don't have the judgment to be president or the credibility to be elected president." AFP



DEMOCRATIC presidential nominee John Kerry delivers a foreign policy speech at New York University in New York City. AP

Annan takes fresh swipe at Bush

UNITED NATIONS—UN Secretary General Kofi Annan took a fresh jab at US President George W. Bush on Tuesday, in a clear sign that world opinion was still far from making peace with the war in Iraq.

Annan opened this year's annual debate of world leaders at the United Nations by criticizing Bush's plan to deliver democracy to Iraq through force in a pointed speech aimed at underlining the importance of the rule of law.

"Those who seek to bestow legitimacy must themselves embody it, and those who invoke international law must themselves submit to it," Annan said, according to his prepared remarks.

"In Iraq, we see civilians massacred in cold blood while relief workers, journalists and other non-combatants are taken hostage and put to death in the most barbarous fashion," he said.

"At the same time, we have seen Iraqi prisoners disgracefully abused," he said, drawing a parallel between the Iraq bloodshed and the prisoner scandal in a way destined to irk Bush, who was to due to speak after Annan.

Annan has labored for a year to heal the deep divisions over the war that brought down Saddam Hussein, and his wide-ranging address referred to the catastrophe in Sudan, the Middle East conflict and Russia's hostage tragedy.

But the UN chief, who just last week called the war "illegal," also dropped repeated hints about what he has called Bush's unilateral decision to invade Iraq against the grain of international opinion.

"It is the law, including Security Council resolutions, which offers the best foundation for resolving prolonged conflicts—in the Middle East, in Iraq and around the world," he said.

"All states—strong and weak, big and small—need a framework of fair rules," the UN chief said.

Bush failed to win Security Council backing for the war and, if Annan's criticisms were less blunt than those he offered last year, his position remained at odds with Bush's defense of the war in the fight against terror. AP

Family of US contractor prays for other hostages

HILLSDALE, Michigan—Through their grief and anger, relatives of an American construction worker beheaded in Iraq extended prayers for an American and a Briton still in captivity, while in London, the family of the Briton pleaded for his release.

A video posted Monday on a website showed the decapitation of a man identified as American contractor Eugene Armstrong. Armstrong and two others working as construction contractors, American Jack Hensley and Briton Kenneth Bigley, were abducted Thursday.

"This is what we did not want to hear," Armstrong's family said in a statement.

The militant group led by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi claimed responsibility for the slaying of Armstrong and said another hostage—either the American or the Briton—would be killed in 24 hours unless all Muslim women are freed from two US-controlled prisons in Iraq.

On Tuesday, Bigley's family pleaded with British Prime Minister Tony Blair to meet the captors' demands and save the hostage's life.

"I ask Tony Blair personally to consider the amount of bloodshed already suffered," his son Craig Bigley said in a videotaped statement. "Please meet the demands and release my father ... Only you can save him now. You have children and you will understand how I feel at this time."

Kenneth Bigley's brother Phillip Bigley also pleaded with the captors to free the two men.

"We are begging you not to kill them," he said. "We are begging you to find a solution, a compromise, that will help to save two lives, innocent lives."

In a statement Monday, Cyndi Armstrong, speaking in Michigan for the Armstrong family, remembered Eugene Armstrong—known as Jack—as "a good guy" who "didn't like to stay in one place. He loved to travel."

She said his family was praying for Hensley, Bigley and their families.

During a prayer vigil, two ministers addressed a crowd in front of the courthouse on the small city's main street. Yellow ribbons adorned the building's banister and trees around it, and many in the crowd carried

American flags.

Armstrong, whose age was not immediately available, grew up in Hillsdale, about 160 km southwest of Detroit, but left the area around 1990. His construction work took him around the world; he lived in Thailand with his wife before going to Iraq.

Sen. Carl Levin released a statement extending his sympathy to Armstrong's family. "It is our fervent hope that those who perpetrated this atrocity on an innocent man will be brought to justice," said Levin.

In Marietta, Georgia, home of the other American held, friends and neighbors were seen approaching the Hensley home Monday and giving notes to a police officer posted outside. Two children, schoolmates of the Hensleys' daughter, Sara, arrived in the afternoon with a stack of cards and messages.

Speaking on CNN television, Patty Hensley, wife of Jack Hensley, said she was "devastated" to hear of Armstrong's death. "He was one of my husband's best friends and best co-workers and I know his family is terribly devastated at this point." AP

CBS admits 'mistake' in Bush military report

NEW YORK—CBS star television journalist Dan Rather on Monday apologized on prime time television for using dubious documents to back a report that cast doubts on President George W. Bush's Vietnam era military service.

"I want to say personally and directly, I'm sorry," Rather said after highlighting the network's regrets for using the documents which alleged that Bush had received preferential treatment to get into the Texas Air National Guard.

"We can no longer vouch for their authenticity," Rather said. "It was a mistake. CBS News deeply regrets it."

CBS had issued a statement earlier in the day apologizing for using the documents without fully checking their veracity.

The acknowledgment is a major embarrassment for the network, which for the past week had sought to stand by the report, despite growing pressure to admit it may have been misled as to the documents' provenance.

The debate—allegedly written by late Lt. Col. Jerry Killian, Bush's commanding officer in the Texas National Guard in the 1970s—suggested political pressure was exerted to "sugar coat" the future president's service

record.

The "60 Minutes" report also charged that Bush's family connections had secured his assignment to the National Guard unit—a posting that effectively spared him active duty in Vietnam.

Soon after the report aired, questions were raised over the authenticity of the memos, with numerous experts arguing the typeface could have been produced only by a modern-day word processor, not Vietnam War-era typewriters.

Heyward insisted that "60 Minutes" had "full confidence" in the original report at the time of its broadcast.

However, further forensic investigation, as well as interviews with Killian's former secretary Marian Carr Knox and retired National Guard Lt. Bill Burkett, who provided the documents, had challenged those earlier assumptions, he said.

In his interview to be broadcast Monday evening, Burkett admits that he deliberately misled the CBS News producer working on the report, giving her a false account of the documents' origins to protect a promise of confidentiality to the actual source. AP



A VIDEO grab from Independent Television News shows Craig Bigley (L), the son of British hostage Kenneth Bigley who is being threatened with execution in Iraq, appealing to Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair to meet the demands of his kidnappers and save his life. REUTERS

US to sell smart bombs to Israel

JERUSALEM—The United States will sell Israel nearly 5,000 smart bombs in one of the largest weapons deals between the allies in years, the Haaretz newspaper reported Tuesday.

The deal could face political controversy since Israel has used such bombs in fighting with the Palestinians, the daily said. In one such instance in July 2002, a one-ton bomb meant for a senior Palestinian militant also killed 15

civilians in an attack in the Gaza Strip.

The deal is worth US\$319 million and was revealed in a Pentagon report made to the U.S. Congress a few weeks ago, Haaretz said. Funding for the sale will come from the US military aid to Israel.

The bombs include airborne versions, guidance units, training bombs and detonators. The bombs are guided by an existing

Israeli satellite used by the military.

As part of the deal, Israel will receive 500 one-ton bombs that can destroy two-meter concrete walls, 2,500 one-ton bombs, 1,000 half-ton bombs and 500 quarter-ton bombs, the daily said.

The Pentagon wants through the deal to maintain Israel's military advantages and ensure US strategic and tactical interests, Haaretz said. AP

Arabs wonder why many Muslims commit terror in Islam's name

BEIRUT—The rash of kidnappings, beheadings and explosions in Iraq, the killing of innocent children in Russia, and car bombings in Turkey and Indonesia have sparked debate among Arab intellectuals on why the majority of terror acts have been committed by Muslims acting in the name of Islam.

Some blame the violence on an atmosphere of intolerance and extremism that has bred hatred of non-Muslims and urged honest soul-searching as a remedy; others insist the problem is with the West, particularly the United States and its unconditional support of Israel and its war on Iraq.

The debate in newspaper columns, letters from readers and TV talk shows may be low-key, intermittent and limited to the intellectual elite, but some Arabs believe it's a step toward breaking the taboo of speaking out against problems within the Muslim religious establishment and its clergy and reversing support for extremism.

"The debate is a very positive indicator," said Sateh Nouredine, managing editor of the Lebanese newspaper As-Safir. "If it continues, it could pose the larger and more important question of how qualified are the Muslim religious establishment and clergy to

lead a political platform?"

"Right now, Muslim youths can choose only between Osama bin Laden and semiliterate clerics," Nouredine added. "What is required is an Arab religious establishment that's civilized, educated and vigilant."

Speaking out against extremism is not new. A few months after the Sept. 11 attacks that were carried out by 19 Arabs, dozens of columns and opinion pieces appeared in the region's newspapers, especially those in Saudi Arabia, home to 15 of the hijackers, urging moderation.

But in the past few weeks, with the school siege in Russia that left more than 330 people dead and the resurgence of terror attacks in Iraq, where the victims of car bombs and beheadings are overwhelmingly Iraqis or Muslims, the debate has gained momentum. The effort is not an organized movement nor is it widespread, but it's a reflection of what's being discussed among some Arabs.

Condemnation has not only come from intellectuals, but also from some of the Muslim world's most prominent scholars. Egypt's foremost religious leader, Mohammed Sayed Tantawi, says "beheadings and (the) mutilation of bodies stand against Islam." And Lebanon's top Shiite Muslim cleric, Grand Ayatollah Sheikh Mohammed

Hussein Fadlallah, maintains Islam doesn't sanction the killing and abduction of foreigners who are working and feel secure in Muslim countries.

However, when it comes to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, many religious scholars say suicide bombings carried out by the militant Hamas and Islamic Jihad are acceptable.

"The Palestinian resistance against Zionist terrorism is one that we demand, bless and sanction," said Abdul-Aziz al-Khayat, a Jordanian scholar and former minister of religious affairs.

But he said blowing up buildings in Iraq, Turkey or Afghanistan, the abductions in Iraq, and attacks on Western residential compounds in Saudi Arabia "cannot be sanctioned because they don't target an oppressive power."

It's a view held by many Arabs, but it's being increasingly challenged.

Sulaiman al-Hattian, a Saudi columnist, said Arabs "lack the human face" when it comes to condemning terror attacks, including those against Israelis. He said those who denounce such bombings usually do so for political reasons—because they do not advance the attackers' cause—and not for humanitarian reasons. AP

Yudhoyono seen to finally tame brutal Indon military

JAKARTA—The retired four-star general heading for victory in Indonesia's presidential elections may use his background to succeed where the country's post-dictator Suharto politicians have so far failed—bringing the powerful military brass under civilian control.

"If anyone can undertake serious reforms in the military, it's (Susilo Bambang) Yudhoyono," said Ken Conboy, a military expert and former deputy director at the Asian Studies Institute in Washington.

"Certainly nobody can doubt his credentials for the job," said Conboy, who now lives in Jakarta.

The generals have played the role of kingmaker in Indonesian political life since 1966, when a junta headed by General Suharto ousted founding president Sukarno and ushered in 32 years

of military dictatorship.

Suharto used the armed forces to brutally repress any opposition. In exchange, he appointed loyal generals to key government posts and the rubber-stamp legislature.

Although their overt role has been declining since Suharto's ouster in 1998—this year they gave up their block of 38 reserved seats in parliament—the generals still retain immense behind-the-scenes influence which many say presents a serious threat to democracy.

The generals were instrumental in forcing both of Suharto's successors—B.J. Habibie and Abdurrahman Wahid—from office. In 2001, they surrounded the presidential palace with tanks, forcing Wahid to stage a quick exit.

His deputy, Megawati Sukarnoputri, was picked for the top job most likely because she

promised to give the generals a free hand.

Because the US\$2.5 billion defense budget is clearly inadequate, the military has traditionally financed up to 75 percent of its needs through a solid, nationwide network of military-owned companies and foundations. These institutions are beyond government control and are never audited. There is widespread speculation that a large chunk of their profits end up in the pockets of the brass.

Paradoxically, the military—long known for human rights abuses—also has found a new path to legitimacy and influence via the war on terrorism. The US administration, and particularly Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, a former ambassador to Jakarta, see the armed forces as a bulwark against Muslim radicalism in

Southeast Asia.

But analysts have repeatedly warned that unless the military is brought under civilian control, Indonesia will never grow into a true democracy.

"If there is ever any threat to democracy in Indonesia, it will always first come from the military," said Salim Said, a political columnist and military analyst.

A vast majority of Indonesians have placed their hopes in Yudhoyono, a retired US-trained four-star general who served as Megawati's top security minister, to rein in the armed forces.

Despite his close ties with the top brass—he named 16 retired commanders to his campaign team, including former armed forces chief Adm. Widodo Adisutopo—he is widely regarded as a reformer.

No one denies that the path of

military reform will be slow and tortuous.

"Washington is very keen to offer some carrots (for military reform) and Yudhoyono is just the

man to work with," said Greg Barton, of Australia's Deakin University. "He is still well liked enough by his military institution to get the backing for some changes." AP



INDONESIAN presidential candidate Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (right) shakes hand with his supporters after a brief late night news conference at his house in Cibubur outside Jakarta on Sept. 20.

US lifts sanctions on Libya

WASHINGTON—US President George W. Bush on Monday removed most economic sanctions on Libya, clearing the way for huge compensation payments to the families of victims of the 1988 Lockerbie bombing.

The restrictions were removed after Libya addressed concerns over its weapons programs, but Tripoli remains on the US list of state sponsors of terrorism, the State Department said.

Bush signed an executive order removing remaining economic restrictions on aviation services with Libya, permitting direct, scheduled and chartered flights, and unblocking approximately \$1.3 billion in frozen assets.

"This step is taken in response to actions that Libya has taken over the past nine months to address concerns by the international community about its weapons of mass destruction programs," State Department spokesperson Adam Ereli told reporters.

Libya had set a Sept. 22 deadline for the United States to lift sanctions to pave the way for payment of the next tranche of compensation to families of the 270 people killed in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103.

"We expect the families of the victims of Pan Am 103 to receive over \$1 billion in additional compensation from Libya," White House spokesperson Scott McClellan said in a statement.

He said the families' "determination and courage" to hold Libya accountable "contributed greatly to efforts to secure an agreement under which Libya agreed to end all its WMD programs and pledged to end all connections with terrorism."

Some families of those killed in the bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, have pressed Bush to remove all sanctions, including dropping Libya from the list of "state sponsors of terrorism," to allow for the payment of the full \$2.7 billion in compensation under a deal reached last year.

Under the deal, Libya agreed to pay the compensation and accept responsibility for the Lockerbie bombing in return for the lifting of UN and US sanctions. AFP

Floods kill more than 620 in Haiti

GONAIVES, Haiti—Bleated corpses filled morgues as Haitians faced yet another tragedy in a year marked by revolts, military interventions and deadly floods. At least 622 people were killed by Tropical Storm Jeanne, and officials expect to find many more bodies.

The corpses of two children lay on a sidewalk Monday in Gonaives, where one-third of the dead brought to the hospital were children. More than 500 people had died in the sprawling northern city, Toussaint Kongo-Doudou, a spokesman for the UN mission, told The Associated Press.

Another 17 died in the nearby town of Terre Neuve, agriculture official Madiro Morilus said, and 56 bodies were found in the northern city of Port-de-Paix, according to Kongo-Doudou.

Dieufort Desloges, a spokesman for the government civil protection agency, reported another 49 bodies recovered in other villages and towns, most in the northwest.

"We expect to find dozens more bodies, especially in Go-

naives, as ... floodwaters recede," Desloges told the AP.

Tropical Storm Jeanne entered the Caribbean last week, killing seven people in the US territory of Puerto Rico before heading to the Dominican Republic, where it killed at least 18.

The toll is highest in Haiti, one of the poorest countries in the world where deforestation has made even light rain deadly. More than 90 percent of Haiti's trees have been chopped down, mostly to make charcoal. Without roots and foliage, there is nothing to hold water back from low-lying towns.

The world's first black republic and the only one to launch a successful rebellion against slavery, Haiti marked 200 years of independence amid political turmoil in January. A month later, a three-month rebellion ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and brought a US-led military force. In May, disaster struck again with floods that killed more than 3,000 people on the Haitian-Dominican border on the island of Hispaniola. AP

Yangtze River Bridge turning into a bridge of sighs

By Jim Yardley

NANJING, China—The view from where Chen Si stood on the landmark Yangtze River Bridge captured the frantic, thrumming energy of China. Honking trucks and buses poured over the span as hundreds of barges slid along the dark brown water below. The sweeping downtown skyline rose in the distance.

But Chen watched the people. He noticed a man standing alone, seemingly pensive, and walked toward him in short, quick steps. He watched people unloading from city buses and gauged the slump of their shoulders as they trudged along the sidewalk at the edge of the bridge.

For hours on this recent Sunday morning, Chen watched and waited for that unknowable, unthink-

able moment when one of the thousands of people who cross the bridge every day might try to jump off. Chen comes almost every weekend, bringing along a thermos of tea. He has become the bridge's self-appointed guardian angel.

"If I save one person," Chen said, "one is a lot."

By his own count, Chen, who is in his mid-30s, has stopped 42 people from jumping since he began his patrols a year ago. He has talked them down and wrestled them down. He will hike up his pant leg to show a deep laceration from one tussle. He also has watched five people slip out of his grasp and fall to their deaths in the Yangtze.

"It is very easy to recognize," he said of potential jumpers. "A person walks without spirit." New York Times

101 6,849.37 in 24 mos. and you can own it!
Sam's **OWN BOSS!!!**
 EVERYTHING ON STICKS
 FRANCHISE HOTLINE 4535239-40

KOALA SPAS
 Bring New Life into Your Home
 Relax in your own KOALA'SPA Pool
ARK MIL, INC.
 1234 Showroom
 1234 Main St., Suite 100, Project 7, Quezon City • Tel. No. (02) 274-3781 to 83
 Makati Showroom
 123 Main Street, Makati, Manila • Tel. No. (02) 816-1668

R&A **IMMIGRATION SOLUTIONS**
 BY REEVES & ASSOCIATES
 24 Years Of Excellent Service To The Business & Immigrant Communities

- R&A represents hundreds of Hospitals in California and throughout the U.S. that have immediate RN & PT openings
- Devoted exclusively to the practice of immigration & nationality law
- Successfully immigrated more than 16,000 Filipino families
- Telephone or Tele-video conference with an immigration expert
- Case Information System allowing clients on-line access to their files 24 hours a day
- R&A is the firm that other attorneys send their clients when their cases are too difficult or complicated
- R&A is one of the largest, oldest and most trusted immigration firms in the United States

Call (02) 759-6777

YOU DESERVE TO BE REPRESENTED BY THE VERY BEST

• PASADENA • SAN FRANCISCO • BEIJING • MANILA •

www.rreeves.com e-mail: rrphil@rreeves.com

A STRONG WORLD-WIDE BRAND IN EUROPE!

Vitra
 SANITARY WARE

POWERFUL FEATURES OF Vitra
 Vitra lines have two special features: VitraClean + VitraHygiene

VitraClean - is a special glaze which makes the surface incredibly smooth so that water is repelled. Dirt simply runs along with the water and build up of the lime scales is reduced.

VitraHygiene - is an anti-bacterial glaze created by adding silver ions to the raw glaze before firing. The silver particles are able to reduce bacterial growth because the bacteria cannot breed. This special glaze is extremely durable and long lasting. You're assured that your Vitra fixtures will always look as new the day you bought them.

Exclusively Distributed in the Philippines by:
BIRMINGHAM INC.
 Belson House, G/F 271 EDSA, Near cor, Connecticut, Mandaluyong City
 Tels.: 721-0717, 723-8812 Fax (632) 723-8815 email: bipe@ultimate.info.com.ph

Mula sa Leader in Wirele

MAY PA-McDo KADA PADALA

SMART PADALA
THE WORLD'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL CASH REMITTANCE THROUGH TEXT

For every SMART Padala encashment at any SMART

Just present your encashment slip and the text notification at your nearest McDonald's outlet!

P1,000-P4,999
amount encashed

Encashment is available at selected McDonald's outlets but you can claim freebies at any McDonald's outlet.

Present your SMART Money Card for card transactions.



Burger McDo

or



Regular Fries



Participating SMART PADALA Centers:



love ko 'to'



SMART PADALA CENTER

Backed by:



BANCO DE ORO

Available at selected branches. Watch out for more SMART PADALA Centers to come!

Call the SMART Padala Hotline at 845-7788 (landline), * 7788 on your cellphone, or 1-800-10-845-77-88 (domestic toll-free) for more information. Promo runs from September 12, 2004 to November

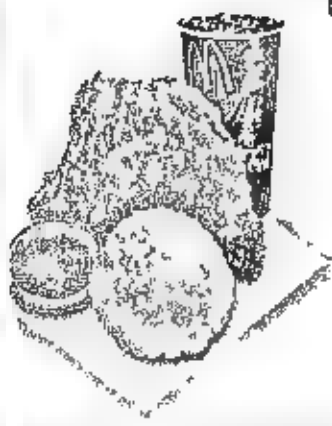
ss, Leader in Innovation

PA-BLOWOUT

WINNER KA SA SMART!

Padala Center, get freebies at any McDonald's outlet.

P5,000-P9,999
amount encashed



or



1pc. Chicken McDo Meal

Cheeseburger Meal

P10,000 and up
amount encashed



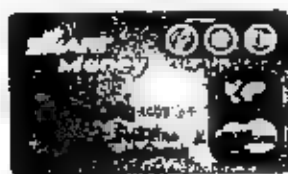
or



2pc. Chicken McDo Meal

Big Mac Meal

Powered by:



SMART
Simply Amazing!

Three lost decades

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila



point in the history of the country. It marked the dismantling of a political system, a democratic polity, albeit a seriously flawed one. Remembrance has been refocused to some of the more appalling aspects of the martial law years, for example, the atrocities of the regime, human rights violations, the disappearances of targets of repression, the economic plunder perpetrated by the dictatorship, the economic disaster stemming from economic policies determined by crony capitalism, and the unprecedented scale of corruption. These are the more obvious landmarks and legacies of dictatorship which basically is a system that fosters abuse of power leading to other disastrous consequences.

However, the perpetuation of memory built on these more obvious aspects of the dictatorship tends to narrow our perspectives in remembering martial law on a range of issues centered on the theme of Never Again. We tend to forget that martial law was not just a landmark of the breakdown of Philippine democracy in the 1970s. It is lost to us that Ferdinand Marcos demolished democracy in 1972 to make way for the introduction of authoritarianism that was riding a wave sweeping most of Asia in that decade—to mention the more outstanding models, the People's Republic of China under the Communist Party, Lee Kuan Yew's soft authoritarianism in Singapore, Suharto's dictatorship in Indonesia, and the authoritarian regime in Malaysia. We were a late-comer to Southeast Asia's authoritarian club.

In most of these Asian countries with authoritarian regimes, authoritarianism was not just a weapon for stifling democratic impulses but even

more so it was a tool for economic expansion and development. When Marcos declared martial law, he was not just concerned with crushing the communist insurgency and destroying the political infrastructure of democracy which allows the political opposition to obstruct government initiatives and to check its corruption and abuses. Marcos had a larger purpose than these. The larger purpose was to use martial law as the facility and stage for economic takeoff and development, emulating the models of economic success of our neighbors. Park Chung-hee's South Korea and Lee Kuan Yew's Singapore were shining examples of economic growth taking place under a climate of political stability and unhindered by political opposition in a democratic ambience.

The point to remember is that martial law was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity given to a Filipino leader to build the economy and make it march with the pace taken by other authoritarian regimes in Asia.

Because of his excesses, abuses and corruption, Marcos squandered that opportunity. Martial law in the Philippines was a failed political experiment as an engine to drive radical change and economic growth and development.

The 14 years from Sept. 21, 1972 to the restoration of democracy in February 1986 were years of squandered opportunities and wasted national resources.

For the past 18 years after Edsa I, we have been trying to expel the demons of martial law, believing that their expulsion might not only help us avoid the errors of the past but also that the restoration of democracy might build a stronger economy and stable political system.

Unless we change our perspective about remembering martial law, we will continue to get unhelpful lessons from it. Unless we know what we want not to be repeated when we say "Never Again," remembering martial law will remain a futile yearly ritual of exorcising the demons of martial law. The thing to remember is that 1972 to 2004 spanned three decades of lost opportunities and of lessons not learned.

Cultural liberty

DOES culture affect development?

Over the last hundred years or so, social scientists have debated this link. Max Weber, for example, wrote, almost a hundred years ago, that there was an "elective affinity" between Protestantism and the development of capitalism. In the period after World War II, many social scientists were recruited by development agencies to look into cultural reasons behind underdevelopment.

In the Philippines, certain values such as *hiya* and *utang na loob*, or even the entire "flawed culture" have been blamed for our underdevelopment.

Now the UN Development Programme (UNDP) has come out with still another exploration of the links between culture and development. Their latest Human Development Report is different though in that it rejects the idea that culture dooms certain countries to failure.

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Multiculturalism

While in the past social scientists were busy trying to describe cultures as a homogenous way—for example, most Filipinos carrying the value of *bahala na*, or most Filipinos using their nose to point—the UNDP emphasizes that even within a culture, there is much diversity and variation. Even more importantly, it is this diversity, and the freedom to practice and develop that diversity, that are crucial for development.

What is the link here? I'm going to give some of my own ideas as an anthropologist who has worked in development for several years. Cultural liberty and diversity means tapping into a greater reservoir of talents and skills. This even includes worldviews, how we look at a problem. For example, we often end up being on the receiving end of development plans from the United States, formulated by bureaucrats in Washington. Yet the solutions to some of the most difficult problems in many of our communities may come from indigenous knowledge, from the "natives" who know their own environment.

The extent of "cultural liberty" depends on a country's multicultural policies, described by the UNDP as those "that recognize differences, champion diversity and promote cultural freedoms, so that all people can choose to speak their language, practice their religion, and participate in shaping their culture—so that all people can choose to be who they are."

The UNDP emphasizes that it is important to develop these multicultural policies because in two-thirds of the world's countries, there are minority groups that make up more than 10 percent of the population. Just watch the "American Idol" competitions and you can already see how "American" has become so diverse, including any number of ethnicities, including Filipinos.

The Philippines, too, is extremely diverse, culturally. I walked through one densely populated street in Sampaloc the other night and heard Ilokano, Cebuano, Waray, Ilonggo, Kapampangan, Maranao... and Hokkien Chinese. There were, I am sure, other Filipino languages I couldn't quite identify.

Language isn't the only marker for ethnic diversity. There are differences in clothing, food, architecture, even body language (I've always felt Visayan groups are more alive with their body movements).

Another aspect of cultural diversity is religious affiliation. We say Roman Catholicism is the majority religion in the country, but there are in fact variations to being Roman Catholic. You have, for example, Mike Velarde's El Shaddai, which many people think is a separate sect but is actually still, for now at least, part of the Catholic Church. Certainly, El Shaddai has its own culture, its own variations on the practice of Roman Catholicism, some of which are looked upon with some discomfort by the bishops—the famous up-turned umbrellas, for example, to receive heaven's blessings. "Isang bansa, isang diwa?"

The leaders of many young nations, the Philippines included, have tended to subscribe to the idea that the way to development comes by uniting the country, and by trying to create a common culture.

This approach is best epitomized by a slogan used during Marcos' time: "Isang bansa, isang diwa." The slogan is difficult to translate but more or less refers to the idea of having one country and one spirit. How is this diwa, or spirit, to be brought about? We see this even in textbooks, with all the references to national symbols, the national flag, a national bird, a national flower—the list goes on and on.

The problem with this approach is that a choice of one symbol may displace many other possibilities. Thus, when Tagalog was chosen as the basis for Filipino, it provoked negative reactions from Cebuanos, who rightly pointed out that there were actually more native speakers of Cebuano than Tagalog.

More than holidays

The first chapter of the Human Development Report talks about the need to be able to practice one's own religion, to speak one's language, to celebrate one's ethnic heritage, "without fear of ridicule or punishment or diminished opportunity."

It's a point we should reflect on. Just think of the stereotyped biases Tagalogs have against the "Bisaya," the noun becoming a pejorative adjective. The Bisaya will often fight back but with smaller ethnic groups, a child may grow up ashamed of his or her culture and suppress it. That is a loss for the entire country because that takes away from the national pool of knowledge we could otherwise have.

Even worse, the suppression of particular cultures further reinforces biases against the discriminated groups because we fear the unknown. And as biases grow, resentments may spill over into violent civil strife, as we see with our Muslims.

Promoting cultural liberty takes many forms. For example, the President has included the start and end of Ramadan as national holidays, recognizing Muslims are now everywhere in the Philippines and would appreciate those holidays.

But declaring Ramadan a holiday should also be an opportunity to educate non-Muslims about Islam. I worry that Ramadan, and Islam, will remain exotic and distant unless the mass media help to explain to people what the spirit of the fasting is all about, and how people of other faiths might want to relate to that special season for Muslims. I'd also like to see a recognition of Ramadan incorporated into work policies, to make employers more understanding of the needs of fasting Muslims. The non-government organizations (NGO) I work with are conscious, too, about avoiding Ramadan when scheduling a training workshop or seminar (This year, Ramadan more or less runs from Oct. 15 to Nov. 14.)

There's much more, of course, to the practice of cultural liberty, but we should start with our homes, pointing out to our children the beauty of cultural diversity in our own environment and making sure they don't tease other children because they're of a different race, ethnicity or religion.

An AD/HD child in school

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



With the developmental pediatrician, Ditas worked out a strategy to boost Celine's self-esteem and improve her grades, especially during her senior year in high school when the school administration warned that her grade average wasn't high enough to warrant her graduation. Fearing the massive blow to her daughter's self-esteem, Ditas closely monitored Celine's homework and exam reviews, "breaking up" the classroom content into smaller bits of information before her attention wandered.

"And what do you know, we were able to raise her average by several points above the passing grade!" Ditas exults. Celine is now a freshman at Miriam College and wants to major in mass communications. "We felt that she would function best in a small college where her teachers could better monitor her," Ditas explains their choice of college.

TOGETHER with developmental professionals, educators and other parents of children with AD/HD, Ditas regularly takes part in "school caravans," during which a team from the AD/HD Society of the Philippines meets with teachers and administrators from a cluster of schools and some interested parents, to talk about AD/HD and ways by which the school and home could work together to "manage" a child with the condition.

Sometimes, Celine delivers a personal testimony, which seems to go over well with the parents, reassuring them that even a child with AD/HD can cope with school work well enough to go on to college. Once, a public school teacher asked Celine how, with more than 50 students in her classroom, she could be expected to cope with a

child with AD/HD. "Just have her sit somewhere in the middle where you can easily watch her and tap her on the shoulder if she is becoming too noisy or restless," was Celine's simple advice.

COOPERATION among parents, school and doctor is essential, says Ditas. Many times, the mothers of children with AD/HD say, school administrators and teachers resist admitting or keeping a child with AD/HD in their school, feeling it will entail too much extra work on their part, or result in lower academic standards and bending of rules.

Well, some flexibility may indeed be necessary. A child with AD/HD, advice experts, should not be seated near a spot in the classroom which is a "center of activity," such as the doorway, window or trash can. The child should also be allowed to stand up, walk around the classroom or even leave it from time to time, as long as reasonable limits are set and his classmates are not disturbed.

"We're not asking for special treatment," asserts Dada Lorenzana-Santiago, whose story was told yesterday, "just some cooperation from the school to manage our children's condition." Though some children with AD/HD may also exhibit other learning disabilities, on average, they are just as, if not more, intelligent than their peers. They are also, agree the mothers, "personable, kind, compassionate" though they note that "they can also be manipulative." (But then, what child isn't, right?)

Sean Cura, who has AD/HD, also noted in an interview the "positive" side of his condition: "I can draw while listening to music or studying. I don't get tired easily." People with AD/HD are the ultimate masters of multi-tasking!

Parents, educators and medical professionals interested in learning more about AD/HD are invited to take part in the Second National Conference on AD/HD from Oct. 21-23 at The Tent at the Plaza Car Park, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center. For inquiries, call the Conference Secretariat at 726-1550; 726-0606; 927-3463, or 426-6001 loc. 4649.

The devil and his works

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo



exorcist? We will never know. Nobody spoke Filipino in the room, so no one was bothered. How did this little Greek girl in Florida learn our language? Was the demon Pinoy, or did she learn it from her yaya? The demon was described as short, dark, with curly hair I will not comment further on this matter and leave you to experts like columnist Jaime Licaucop for a more enlightening discussion on demonic possession.

What intrigues me is that if you read early friar accounts of the Philippines and Filipinos, you will see the devil roaming about the archipelago and making life difficult for missionaries. If you open the index to the 55-volume compilation of documents compiled by Blair and Robertson, called "The Philippine Islands 1493-1898," and check under the heading "Devil," you will find a lot of references subdivided into these various topics: his influence over the natives; worshipped and invoked, addressed by his priests and takes possession of them; sacrifices to; dedication to; seen in dreams or visions; impersonated; deceives people; torments human beings; his tricks and witchcraft, etc. All this makes for absorbing reading, but why was the devil more real to people in the 17th century than in our times? Was life then so simple or simple-minded that the devil could be blamed for everything bad?

In our secular and modern times, have we taken more responsibility for evil in the world that we forgot the man with the horns, the tail and the pitchfork? Maybe evil comes in a different form

and shape today?

In the Dominican Diego de Acuña's "Historia de la provincia del Sancto Rosario...en Philipinas (Manila, 1640)" are accounts of how the members of his order converted the Filipinos from their heathen ways and how they battled with an old religion that they considered to be the work of the devil. In some accounts, the devil actually walked abroad and spoke through people who often heard but did not see him. Often the devil worked through the pre-colonial shamans or *babaylan* who were not acknowledged as leaders of a different religion but were branded as witches, their gods devils, demons and evil spirits. Often illness was attributed to the devil and so a cure was interpreted as God's conquest of evil.

One account says "Still there is one miracle that is almost universal in all these regions; this is, that when the devil torments some Indian, under the influence of witches with whom he has made an agreement to torment those whom they desire to harm, he loses his power before the command of the religious. The Indians fear witchcraft so that they do not dare deny the witches anything they ask; and thus they become masters of the property, the food, and the persons of all Indians. The devil is driven out by the very presence of the religious, while in their absence he is kept away by merely having the sick hold a scapular. All this is accomplished without exorcisms, except the command in the name of the Lord that they shall cease their tormenting. In many cases, miracles of healing have been wrought by baptism, or by confession."

When one sees how Filipinos in the 21st century still use crucifixes, rosaries, scapulars, etc. in their homes, offices, cars and persons, we wonder if we have really changed very much in the past 400 years.

Comments are welcome at ocampo@netnet.net

THE 32ND anniversary of the declaration of martial law was marked last Tuesday with the usual theme: Never Again. Recollections centered on this theme are useful to remind us of the sordid and abominable aspects of martial law, the memory of which might instruct our people to avoid repeating the disaster and tragedy of Sept. 21, 1972.

The events associated with martial law should not be allowed to remain as "frozen episodes" of a nation's history. One purpose of the yearly flashback is to drill into the consciousness of the younger generations the lessons of Sept. 21, of how it is to live under a dictatorship. Another is to fortify the memories of the generations who went through the agonizing experiences of martial law.

The "martial law babies" must be in their 30s today. They are the ones who grew up with the draconian rigors of the dictatorship and they keep vivid memories about that era. That generation now occupies pivotal positions of leadership in politics, in the economy, in business and the social life of the nation. Their decisions and inputs in decision-making cannot but be shaped by their recollections of the dictatorship.

Recollections are not unique to any nation, and the post-World War II generation, especially in Europe, has never ceased being reminded that "Never Again" will it happen. But the focus of rewinding the footage of retrospective documentaries has been, especially in Europe, on the atrocities and horrors of Hitler's Nazi dictatorship, the total devastation of World War II and the Holocaust. This remembrance is not just a nostalgic journey to the past.

Similarly, remembrance of martial law is not a nostalgic trip for those who suffered under the dictatorship. If the purpose of remembrance is to indulge nostalgia, recollections do not serve as a learning experience.

Each year, we are reminded of the same theme: Never Again. Martial law is a different experience to each one who lived under it. So, it might be useful to ask ourselves: Never Again, what?

Martial law was an epochal event, a turning

DITAS Martelino has three children, the eldest of whom, Celine, has been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), while her youngest, Kevin, has been found to have AD/HD or Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder.

Because ADD does not manifest in the same disruptive and impulsive behavior as AD/HD, Ditas says it was Kevin who was diagnosed first, after his teachers in his old school complained that the boy "would wriggle on the floor, hurt his classmates and move around the classroom excessively." She and her husband also noticed that Kevin was always afraid of going to school, crying as they reached the school gate and offering all sorts of excuses not to attend classes.

The school guidance counselor referred them to a developmental pediatrician who diagnosed him as having AD/HD. The doctor also told them that Kevin thought of himself as a "very very bad boy" which was what his teacher told him when she seated him in a corner away from the rest of his class. Later, Kevin confided even worse incidents, such as the time the teacher locked him up in a dark closet and told his classmates to hold the door shut, the time a teacher grabbed him by his shirt collar and warned him not to "tell stories" to his parents; and the many times he was pinched and hit on the head ("binaburukan").

Ditas and her husband decided to pull Kevin out of the school, even if it was the middle of the school year, and demanded that their son be allowed to meet his academic requirements by working with a tutor at home. They then enrolled him in a new school, but only after working with administrators and teachers, "coaching" them on ways to cope with Kevin's inattention, hyperactivity and impulsive actions. Today, Kevin is 11, in Grade 5, and an honor student to boot!

IT was only after reading up on AD/HD that Ditas says she suspected Celine, who was then 13, of having ADD. Her teachers at the all-girls school she went to told her repeatedly that Celine showed "promise," but seemed unwilling to explore her potential, failing classroom lectures.

ONE of the worst movies I have seen lately is the prequel to "The Exorcist." Friends said I would have been better off watching Kris Aquino in "Teng Shui."

Demonic possession may be something most Westerners would consign to the Middle Ages (some books call the same period the "Dark Ages"), but it remains real and current to most Filipinos. TV news regularly cover some possessed schoolgirl being tormented with crucifixes, rosaries and holy water. Most of the time, however, the spirit that speaks through these schoolchildren rarely claims to be the devil but some other less but playful form.

One cannot imagine a TV crew being face to face with pure evil, but I remember a segment of the popular TV show "60 Minutes" airing what was reputedly the first televised exorcism in the United States. In some hick town in Florida, there was a Greek girl possessed by a number of evil spirits. She manifested most of the symptoms exhibited by Linda Blair in "The Exorcist," speaking in different voices and languages, threats, profanity, etc. To cut the long story short, the exorcist was able to speak to all the spirits and made them agree to leave the body of the girl at the end of the prescribed Roman Catholic rite of exorcism. While the exorcist ordered all the spirits to depart, there was some wailing and gnashing of teeth, and then from the depths a small voice cried out, "Sandali lang! Sandali lang!" The exorcist engaged this spirit in conversation and convinced the whole demonic group to leave. I couldn't believe my ears. Even in the supernatural world, a Filipino was making life more complicated than it should be.

When the exorcist was interviewed afterwards, parts of the exorcism were re-run and in one of the scenes I could hear that same little voice shouting invectives at the priest and adding, "Bakla ka... Bakla ka!" Was the demon telling the truth? Was it able to see through the sins of the

OPINION

Country needs more Ben Abadianos



I READ Ceres E. Doyo's column titled, "Ben of the 'lumads'," (PDI, 8/26/04). I was so excited reading it because Benjamin Abadiano, the Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for Emergent Leadership, was my good friend and classmate at Xavier University 15 years ago. We were together in many subjects under the anthropologist, Dr. Erlinda Burton, as well as under other professors in sociology. He was also our president in the Socio-Anthro Society. I really want to congratulate him per-

sonally for his remarkable achievement but, unfortunately, I don't have his address. I hope that by having this letter in your column or in the Letters' section of the Inquirer, I will be able to extend to him my hurra!

To me, Ben is a man worthy of emulation. His Christ-like attitude, especially his passion and obsession to help the poor, the marginalized, and the down-trodden has inspired many, not only in the ethnic community but also in the civilized

society. He is soft-spoken, simple and humble but brilliant and full of compassion. It seems that he never gets tired in giving service to humanity. Besides, instead of using the money awarded to him for his personal gain, he used it for the welfare of his people—the lumad of Mindoro. I think, we need more "Bens" in the Cabinet, in the Senate, in the House of Representatives, in the courts and in all sectors of government in order to make this country great again.

Ben is truly an extraordinary person for he possesses the love of Christ, the missionary spirit of St. Paul, the wisdom of Solomon, the patience of Job and the golden heart of King David. His life is a perfect example of what it means to be a true and selfless Christian. God bless, classmate. May your tribe increase!

—DR. ROMEO L. LORENZO,
Chair, Social Science Department
and professor, Graduate School,
University of Iloilo, Iloilo City

SSS baloney?

SOCIAL Security System president Corazon de la Paz has announced that contributions from members rose by 15 percent in the first half of 2004, indicating that the SSS' financial condition has improved. According to SSS vice president Felipe Cariño, at present, only 16 active paying members are supporting one retiree, three less than the 19 paying members per retiree back in 2000. (PDI, 9/3/04)

This is pure baloney. Why is it that SSS pensioners never received an annual 10-percent increase in their monthly pension from 2001 to 2004? The present administration is totally ignoring SSS pensioners. During the terms (two and a half years) of President Estrada and SSS president Carlos Arellano, pensioners received two successive 10-percent annual increases.

If it's true that the members' contributions have increased, why is the SSS planning to increase its members' contributions by 2 percent?

—ELIGIO M. PASTORIN,
91 Paraiso St., Parang, Marikina City

'Scarcity mentality'

THE "TWO-CHILD POLICY" (House Bill No. 16) proposed by Rep. Edcel Lagman will not serve the best interest of the country because it is anchored on the mind-frame of scarcity that considers high population growth as a barrier to development, giving rise to a "contraceptive" mentality.

Lagman's bill actually looks at a big population as the crucial cause of poverty and misery. It sees the third child-to-be in a family as another mouth to feed that will lower the nation's GDP growth rate.

If a third child is deemed as a negative value, which is worth less than zero, how could the Lagman bill regard people as human beings whose dignity, liberty, freedom of choice and rights to life and development the state must ensure?

The bill proposes that the state rewards with incentives "ideally" sized two-child families. This implies that larger families must be marginalized due to inaccessible benefits that they could very well deserve. What if the third or the fourth child, the fifth or the sixth, is a potential Ryan Cayabyab, a Josette Biyo, or a Patricia Evangelista?

In population management, our politicians would profit immensely if they assume the outlook of a good entrepreneur. As the entrepreneur sees possibilities of selling his products, he mobilizes people to produce them so he can meet the product demand. He effects a synergy among individuals creating other possibilities of earning wealth. If Henry Sy "stopped at two" customer sales, there would be no Shoe Mart. If he "stopped at two" SM branches established, there would be no Megamall. Perhaps Sy did not even think of real estate development and property management during the early years of SM Cebu, when he was buying at a bargain shoe raw materials and other merchandise.

Recently, the Population Research Bureau projected a stalling of growth by 2050 among many large industrialized nations due to low birth rates, struggling economies and curbs on immigration. If we agree to effect a two-child policy per family, the Philippines in no time would disappear in the economic map. We will surely lose our work force and our resident consumers. We may have been left behind by the export bus in the past decades, but we have undeniably survived due to the thriving domestic market and a resilient underground economy.

The abundance paradigm contrasts with the scarcity or contraceptive mentality that the Lagman bill adopts. The essence of the abundance mind-set is having the spirit of creative enterprise, that believes in the dynamism of people. It considers how each family can build wealth through its members' combined capacity to create. Having a paradigm of abundance is the hallmark of first rate entrepreneurs and magnanimous leaders.

Lagman's proposal does not offer a real solution to poverty. It is a "quick fix" remedy. And with quick fixes, the problem aggravates in time, with its repair cost becoming exorbitant.

—MEL E. MARANAN,
3 San Diego, Bauan, Batangas

SAMSUNG

Silver NanoTM
HEALTH SYSTEM

Protect your own health.

You're in a Protected Zone with the Silver Nano Health SystemTM from Samsung. Its advanced technology protects the air you breathe, the clothes you wear and even the food you eat.

Here's how it works. Utilizing the proven anti-bacterial and sterilization properties of silver, we've developed a unique process to create nano-sized silver ions. These ions kill and prevent the propagation of bacteria.

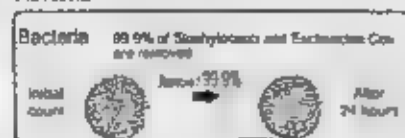
So now, your clothes will have up to 99.9% sterilization and an anti-bacterial effect that lasts up to 30 days. The air you breathe will be bacteria-free because it passes through a Silver Nano filter. And the food you eat will stay fresh and healthy for a longer period.

Create your own bacteria-free Silver Nano Protected Zone with the latest Samsung appliances.

How Silver Nano works:



The results:



How the Ag+ ion eliminates body odor:

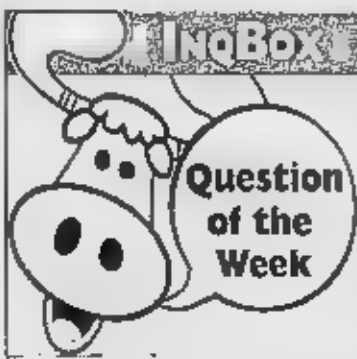


Conventional deodorant merely masks the odor. But when a body is coated with a glyceride of silver, a fatty acid which emits an unpleasant odor is produced.



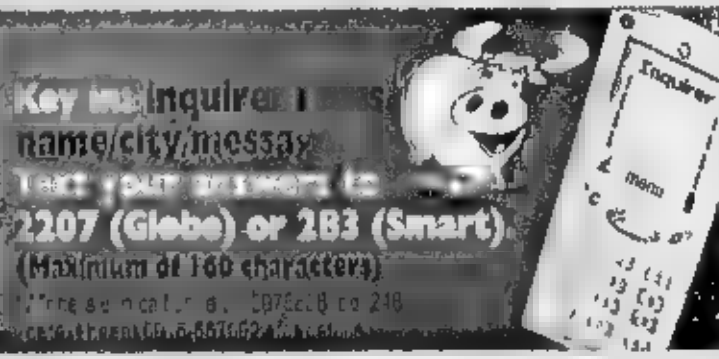
With Silver Nano Technology, The Ag+ ion kills the sporophyte. Without it, sweat cannot decompose to emit an unpleasant odor.

Samsung Philippines Corporation Ground Floor, Bonaventure Plaza, Ortigas Avenue, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. No. 722-7777 • Fax No. 722-9388 • For Customer Care Center, dial 1-800-10SAMSUNG (1-800-10-7267864)



Some militant party-list representatives have protested the reduction of their pork barrel (from 35 million to 10 million pesos each) for the latter half of 2004. Is their protest valid? Why or why not?

Texters' messages R. printed in Tuesday's InqBox will each receive a "Gusto stuffed toy!"



INQUIRER

Northern Luzon

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Rolando B. Fernandez



BAGUIO children enjoy their nutritious bread in more ways than one.

Baguio feeding program reaches more children

By Desiree Caluza
Baguio City

THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD Joshua Young knows that a good heart can save the world and uplift everyone's spirits. So when the story on a local school feeding program using the vitamin-fortified bread Nutribun came out in the INQUIRER last month, Joshua immediately called members of Kataguan Watch, the program's sponsors, to let them know that he was interested in sponsoring breakfast for at least 100 first year students of Baguio City National High School.

Kataguan Watch has started the "First Meal Project" for public school students in Baguio City who are either underweight or poor to improve their weight and their eating habits.

At 6 a.m. on Sept. 3, Joshua, wearing his Boy Scout uniform, went to the BCNHS' home economics building to help prepare the meal.

He was accompanied by his father and his 9-year-old brother, Daniel, to serve three pots of arroz caldo and pandesal. The bread had egg fillings which Young and his mother prepared that morning.

Joshua and Daniel took turns in serving the soup and bread to the students with Chiqui Torres, coordi-

nator of the First Meal Project, before they attended their classes at the Baguio Patriotic School at 7:30 a.m.

Joshua also prepared another container of egg filling that would go with Torres' version of Nutribun.

"After I read the Nutribun story in the INQUIRER, I felt that I had to join this program because I wanted to share (my blessings)," Joshua told the INQUIRER.

It was not his first time to sponsor a charitable work for children, his parents said.

In December last year, Joshua hosted a Christmas party and distributed gifts for the street children of Ermita in Manila, and was an active member of Youth Aid, a group of children volunteers who spend a day's work and donate P200 each to institutions that take care of children suffering from cancer.

Sharing

Sharing has become a part of Joshua's spirit, calling when he was being raised in Manila with his other siblings.

On Sundays, Joshua would give 10 percent of his weekly allowance to their church, the Varsity Christian Fellowship.

Joshua said his action was guided by the strong Christian values that his parents taught him and the importance of community service that he learned from the Scouting movement.

"I feel good because we are reaching out to other people. Even in a little way, I know I can help. I want these children to have a bright

BAGUIO/A16

IT IS not the Crow Valley firing range that makes Camp O'Donnel in Capas, Tarlac, an important area but its real crows, hawks and other bird species that residents fear they may not see any more soon.

Unknown to many, including most Tarlaqueños, the 31,879-hectare reservation that used to be part of the United States military bases in Central Luzon, had been identified as one of the 117 important bird areas (IBA) in the Philippines and among the 206 areas of the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities (PBCP) under the Philippine biodiversity conservation priority setting program.

The area is described as "extremely high critical" for conservation.

The program presents the consensus of more than 300 expert scientists and decision makers from more than 100 local and international institutions on the most biologically important areas in the Philippines. Its results are meant to influence conservation and development planning across the archipelago.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (DENR-PAWB), the biodiversity conservation program of the University of the Philippines Center for Integrative and Development Studies (BCP-UPCIDS) and the Conservation International initiated the program.

Where birds are

As a boy, 76-year-old Reynaldo Martinez, a retired government employee, used to graze cattle at Camp O'Donnel "because it is where grass grows in abundance."

That was in 1946. Evacuating for safety during the Japanese occupation, his family moved from the Tiarac town center to Barangay Moriones at the western and mountainous end of the province.

Martinez recalls they traversed the mountain trail on their cattle-driven cart, leaving Moriones at



AN EAGLE, one of the birds that make O'Donnel home and sanctuary

dawn and arriving at Camp O'Donnel at daybreak.

O'Donnel then housed the 13th wing of the US Air Force, while its forested area was used for military exercises.

In those days, he says, it was "ordinary knowledge" to know the different kinds of birds, how they behaved and the sound they made.

The patuk-truk (woodpecker), he says, was a dark-colored bird that pecked on tree trunks. It was not every day that he saw one but it was one of the birds he saw in his youth.

He describes the denas (wood swallows) as peck-eating birds that came in small groups. Some were gray, others a bit yellowish. Smaller than the denas was the pipit, he says.

In September, Martinez recalls that another type of bird called tarut (brown shrike) came in droves. He remembers another bird, the martines (mynah), which had black or dark gray with a streak of white on both wings that fed on carabao ticks. Then there were also the low flying birds like tagak (heron) and kulyawen (oriole).

Dr. Hermes Frías, former Capas mayor and now municipal administrator, confirms this.

"Even to this day, crows still fly over the area. I don't know if these are hawks or young eagles, but these birds regularly visit our fishponds in Barangay Marigao and dive for their share (of fish)," he says.

This is also observed in Barangay Dungan in nearby Concepcion town where fishponds are located.

According to residents, the birds flock at their ponds and prey on their growing fishes every day.

Frías says even the tinking had made his farm a regular breeding area because he would always find their eggs all over.

In his youth, Frías remembers having seen a green kulast (parakeet) once and more of the pugo (wild quail) and boro-boro (wild doves).

Like Martinez, Frías saw this part of O'Donnel when its forests were still thick and wild pine trees grew along the banks of the O'Donnel River.

Biodiversity

"Then, we also have here wild boar (baboy damo) and deer (usa). There's nothing of that now. The forests I saw then are now planted with food crops like gabi (yam)," Frías says.

When they were young, they

To catch a tarut, they made an umang. This is a piece of stick loosely tied to a string with the first loop of the knot wide enough to catch a bird by its feet.

When the bird alights on the stick, the stick falls off and the feet of the bird will be trapped in the loop and its weight will tighten the knot, Martinez says.

But officials say it is not the umang that drives the birds away—some even to extinction—but the continued destruction of their natural habitat (forests, mangroves, coastal areas or the wetlands).

These habitats are not only for birds but other life forms that make them important biological areas that should be protected, they say.

IBAs are selected based on internationally accepted criteria that count the number of globally threatened species, the number of restricted range species (found within a breeding threshold range of 50,000 square kilometers) and the number of congregatory species in the area.

The country has 576 bird species, 34 percent (195 species) of which are endemic or species unique to the Philippines. At least 74 species are considered threatened. Of the threatened species, 79 percent (59 species) are endemic.

About 395 species are resident breeders as they nest and incubate their eggs in the country in contrast to non-resident breeders, which are migratory birds or vagrants.

Neil Adrin Mallari, wildlife biologist and ornithologist, says birds are barometers of the state of the country's natural environment.

"As they are everywhere and have the most advance data base, they are the clearest indicators we know at the moment. When bird species are threatened or endangered to extinction, that can tell us in what state or condition the natural habitat has become," Mallari says.

The PBCP report describes the Philippines as one of the few countries in the world that is both a "megadiversity" country and a "biodiversity hotspot."

Megadiversity is a term used to characterize a set of 17 countries

CROW VALLEY/A16



In cooperation with

UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations
CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATE PARTNER

The time has come that
we Filipinos must put
our acts together.

Top caliber speakers will be discussing relevant topics which are
years that will generate a strong strategic foundation for national
economic recovery.

Engaging People's Vision with National Strategies

by Undersecretary Abraham Purugganan
The Acting Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Presidential Adviser for
Special Concerns

The Engine of Change: Entrepreneurship

by Prof. Neila Cruz Sarco
A successful and noted Guru in Social Entrepreneurship, first Filipino to be
awarded by the Texas Asian Chamber of Commerce, USA, for innovation
and achievement in Entrepreneurship and first Filipino recipient of the
International Distinguished Women's Award from Northwood University,
USA for outstanding achievement in advancing international education in
Asia.

Generative Management in the Projectized Society

by Prof. Jens Peter Jensen
Internationally acclaimed for his extensive consultative work in Project
Management Development, execution and training specially in Europe, Asia,
Africa and the USA

A National English Language Agenda

by Prof. Juan R. Banquero Jr.
A graduate of the Harvard Graduate School of Education Harvard University,
Cambridge, Massachusetts, co-founder of the National Educators Academy
of the Philippines, and a World Bank Scholar.

Strategic Plans for Philippine Tourism

by Secretary Joseph Ace Durano
One of the youngest Congressmen ever elected to office and a committed
leader from Cebu who has recently been appointed to the position of
Secretary of the Department of Tourism.

Key to Sustainable Implementation: Competent and Internationally-
Accredited Project Managers
by Prof. Margaret Sinclair Hunt
A Management Specialist from Cambridge International Examinations and
author of University of Cambridge published professional and text books on
management.

Centre for International Education

CEBU CAMPUS: 168 Pres. Magsaysay St., Kasambagan, Cebu City 6000 Tel. no. 83.32.233.2522 | 83.32.233.2577 info@cic.edu

MAKATI CAMPUS: 28th Floor Yuchengco Tower, RBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City Tel. no. 83 2 887 2828 | 83 2 753 2828 cic.aka@cic.edu

presents a forum on

THE "PEARL" PRINCIPLE:

Tools and Strategies Towards National Economic Recovery

September 29, 2004 at the InterContinental Hotel Makati - Grand Ballroom

This is a one-day public forum which aims
to consult, discuss and obtain people's
insights on the current problems besetting
the nation and, given such scenarios, how
we can be part of the solution.

"The 'Pearl' Principle" is highly recommended
for representatives of IT as well as Travel
and Tourism companies and associations,
telecom corporations, construction companies,
non-government organizations, people's
organizations, government agencies, local
government units, GOCCs higher education
institutions, media, development managers,
general managers, HR managers, college
students, officers of student councils and
MBA students and other professionals

All training fees are sponsored by CIE so come
and take advantage of this opportunity

Scholarships on Project Management, Travel
and Tourism and Entrepreneurship courses,
as well as laptop computers, will be raffled off.

Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. Please bring
your IDs and calling cards to facilitate your
registration.

Slots are limited. For early reservation please call
tel. no. 887-2828 or 0927-2332496 or email
the_pearl@cic.edu



Baguio feeding program reaches more children From page A17

future that they can look forward to, that they have something that they can hold on to even though they are facing a lot of hardships in their lives," he said.

"When I grow up, I can do more of what I am doing now. I am only one and

I cannot do everything, but I know I can do something that can change the world," Joshua, who aspires to become a doctor or an architect, said.

He said he has friends who are also willing to do charitable work for other children.

"I also hope that grown-ups, who experienced hardships when they were kids but who eventually succeeded in their lives, would help. They have been there so they know what it was like. I hope they would be generous (to help

children in need)," he said.

Paul Fianza, board member of the Katuguan Watch, said they were happy that several groups and individuals had contacted them and pledged support for the project.

Crow Valley birds need...

From page A17

that holds the greatest number of species of living organisms, especially among the best-known groups (plants, birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians).

On a per hectare basis, the Philippines ranks in the top 17 megadiversity countries in terms of biological richness, with its more than 52,177 described species, more than half of which are found nowhere else in the world.

Together, these 17 megadiversity countries contain between 70 and 89 percent of global biodiversity, and thus form an integral part of the global heritage for conserving the diversity of life on earth.

Biodiversity, on the other hand, refers to the great variety and variability of organisms found on earth and the environment in which they live. It is the foundation of healthy and functioning ecosystems.

The Philippines is one of the tropical countries where levels of biodiversity and endemism are remarkably high. Unfortunately, it is also among the top 25 biodiversity hotspots in the world.

A biodiversity hotspot refers to areas that have a high diversity of plants and animals, which are endemic but at the same time, face serious pressures or threats of species loss and habitat destruction.

Citing various researches and scientific studies done recently, the PBCP says the Philippines has lost 75 percent or more of its original vegetation, while at least 418 of the country's wildlife species are threatened with extinction.

"These can no longer be considered as signs of an impending biodiversity crisis, because, apparently, the Philippines is already in the middle of one. The country stands to lose its rich biological heritage irreversibly and prove many experts' prediction of it becoming a global biodiversity disaster area," reports say.

In 1993, only 27.07 percent of its 94,212 hectares forest cover remains, according to the 1993 2000 inventory of land cover status undertaken by the Japan Forest Technology Association (Jafra).

The One and Only Authentic

FAR EASTERN MOONCAKE

Far Eastern Mooncake is now individually machine-packed using the latest scientific food packaging system called deoxygenization, the process of extracting oxygen from the pack to eliminate moisture and avoid mold formation. **Guaranteed long-lasting freshness.**

Available in the following flavors:
Lotus Single, Lotus Double, White Lotus Single, White Lotus Double, Black Mongo Single, Black Mongo Double, Mixed Nut Single, Mixed Nut Double, Plain Lotus, Plain White Lotus, Plain Black Mongo, and Plain Mixed Nuts.

Royal Garden Bakes
851 Sabino Padilla (Formerly Gandara St.)
Cor. Oragon Sts., Manila
Tel. Nos. 733-1122 • 733-1181
733-1175 • Telefax 733-5738

FRESHLY-BAKED EVERYDAY

FREE 25 boxes for every purchase of 100 boxes of Mooncake

FREE 1 box for every purchase of 10 boxes of Mooncake

WINNER of
2003 Family & Consumers
Choice Award



One of them needs One-A-Day for Women. The other needs One-A-Day for Men.

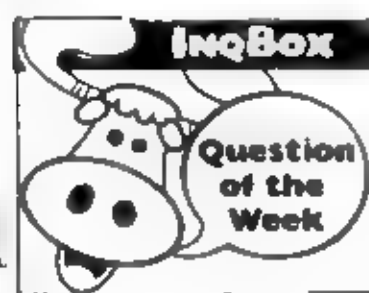
That's because one is a woman and the other is just made up to look like one. It's a good thing there's a multivitamin and mineral formula that sees the difference: gender-specific One-A-Day. While promoting overall wellness, it helps prevent heart disease and maintain virility in men, and helps lessen the risk of anemia and osteoporosis in women. One-A-Day knows the difference.



Guess which one is the woman and you could win a pair of His and Hers Tag Heuer watches! For details, just text ONE A DAY WOMAN to 7966 for Globe/Touch Mobile or 3896 for SMART/Talk N' Text subscribers. Promo ends on October 16, 2004. See posters for more details. Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0643 s. 2004



Bayer HealthCare



What is your favorite comics strip? Why?

Texters' last messages R printed in Tuesday's InoBox will each receive a Geyco stuffed toy!

Key in Inquirer 2004
Contest & Giveaway
Text your answers to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)



NORTHERN LUSON BUREAU
Room 201 Bonuan Apartments
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-5235
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inc_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

33 Aurora St., Old Alibay District
Laguna City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inc_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION
E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0345/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inc_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

PEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inc_davao@inquirer.com.ph

PEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inc_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Track us your feedback: inquirer@inquirer.com.ph or 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

US general mum on Tawi-Tawi abuse rap

ZAMBOANGA CITY—A top US military official refused to comment on allegations that four American soldiers committed human rights violations in Tawi-Tawi during a raid in a village in the province in May.

US Air Force Major General Gary North, the military operations director of the US Pacific Command, avoided reporters' questions on alleged American soldiers' abuses during a visit at the Southern Command headquarters here yesterday.

"I have to go and catch schedules," was all North said.

In another chance interview, North only answered questions on the purpose of his visit.

"I'm just here to visit the troops and have the opportunity

to talk to the Southern Command commander and talk about things that are common concerning to all of us," he told reporters when pressed for answers to the charges that American soldiers took part in the raid that led to the killing of three villagers.

He lauded the continuous RP-US military training exercises conducted in this city and in some other areas in Mindanao saying that "the training is very, very good, we have common interest and they are very important."

North is also expected to visit

the ongoing Light Infantry Battalion Training here where eight American soldiers are teaching about 120 Filipino soldiers of the 27th Infantry Battalion on LTB Squad React and Break Contact and on nocturnal warfare.

Julia Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Ex-underground youth activist says people slow in seeking change

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

ANGELES CITY—Sept. 21, the 32nd anniversary of the imposition of martial law, evoked more fear and pain to Abel Maglambayan, one of the chief propagandists of the Kabataang Makabayan in this former American base town and a former political detainee.

Maglambayan, now 55, said he was disturbed by his perception that Filipinos, although increasingly burdened by the economic crisis, seemed unable to gather strength to seek change.

"Parang ayaw tumutol ngayon (It seems that they are afraid to go against the policies of government)," he said on Tuesday.

Like the previous commemoration of the imposition of martial law, Maglambayan spent the day by listening to revolutionary songs, poring over old propaganda papers, looking at photographs of gone and surviving comrades and recalling their memories, and visiting those still alive.

Most especially, he recalled

with more fondness those who offered their lives for freedom through the armed struggle and whose remains had stayed in the "sinapupunan ng Sierra Madre (in Sierra Madre's womb)."

Poet Emmanuel Lacaba, who moved in the local youth and student movement as "Pepe Legazpi," is among those well remembered, he said.

"The same fundamental problems (of the economy and politics) have remained but, with greater effects on the people. But I have yet to see them rise in collective protests like in years past. Perhaps this is part of the maturing process," Maglambayan said.

The seeming silence and nonchalance, he said, may also be portents of a "welling anger."

"We saw it in history that those who quietly bore the brunt of abuse and exploitation also speak out and rise up... like the years before and after martial law," he said.

Thus, he said, should be a warning to the Macapagal administration.

But for years, he said he is



MEMBERS of militant groups say never again to martial law during a rally in Davao City.

BY GONZALEZ/PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

"neither here nor there," meaning he has not taken any side in the split that had hounded the legal and underground democratic movement in Central Luzon.

Thus, he said, is another source of pain. Following the split in 1997, animosity has grown between and among former comrades. Hostilities have attended some instances.

He said he understands these as part of contradictions.

Although Angeles City hosted Clark Air Base and was, in Maglambayan's time, the bastion of American imperialism,

the nucleus of the Kabataang Makabayan evolved in the city.

The brothers Nilo and Pandong Tayag and Roger and Rodolfo Saas and Teresito Sison formed the national KM in 1964.

Mediaman's slay suspect fears for life

PAGADIAN CITY—The prime suspect in the murder of journalist Edgar Damalerio fears that something bad would happen to him inside the city jail here, Supt. Gregorio Pimentel, chief of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) in Western Mindanao, told the INQUIRER.

Pimentel said Wapile told him that he is afraid for his safety but did not elaborate.

Earlier, Damalerio's wife, Gemma, said authorities should ensure Wapile's safety.

Ms. Damalerio aired suspicion that Wapile's life is in danger as the supposed mastermind in the death of her husband remains at large.

She urged authorities to tighten Wapile's security inside the reformatory center in Barangay Lemenza here.

Reports indicated that Wapile wants to post bail.

However, the National Union of Journalists of the Philippines (NUJP) asked the Department of Justice not to allow Wapile to post bail.

"Freeing him, no matter how temporary, will perpetuate the fear being faced by the witnesses and family of Damalerio," Carlos Conde, NUJP secretary general, said in a statement.

Senior Supt. Karib Muammil, Zamboanga del Sur police chief, said they were doing everything to ensure the safety of the suspected gunman.

"I've directed the local BIMP (Bureau of Jail Management and Penology) to secure the life of Wapile," Muammil said.

Pimentel said the CIDG is trying to unmask the brains behind the Damalerio murder.

"We are following up several leads," he said.

Meanwhile, Pimentel said Wapile was very mad at his former boss, dismissed city police director Supt. Asuri Hawan.

Hawan was dismissed after criminal and administrative charges were filed against him by Damalerio's wife Hermana de la Cruz, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Wushu champion sues anti-narcotics agent for beating him up

By Frank Cinatus
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—A wushu champion was allegedly beaten up by a government narcotics agent inside a nightclub here.

George Lusadan, 26, who won a gold in the Southeast Asian Games for wushu in Myanmar in 1999, feared that he might not be able to play

again as his right eye had been damaged after Daniel Akia, a Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency agent, hit him in the eye with the butt of his gun.

In his affidavit complaint, Lusadan said Akia did not stop punching him even as he was being wheeled to the emergency room of the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center on Sept. 11.

Akia denied hitting Lu-

sadan, saying he left his gun in his car when he went to a pub here.

Lusadan was one of wushu's brightest stars under the stable of actor and wushu trainer Tsong Tsong Tsai. After winning the gold in the 48-kg class in the sanshou category, Lusadan was hurt in the world wushu competition also in 1999 and decided to shift to Muay Thai or Thai boxing.

In his affidavit, Lusadan said he was with other Muay Thai players on Sept. 6 when Akia approached them and asked for a female boxer who was with them to dance with him.

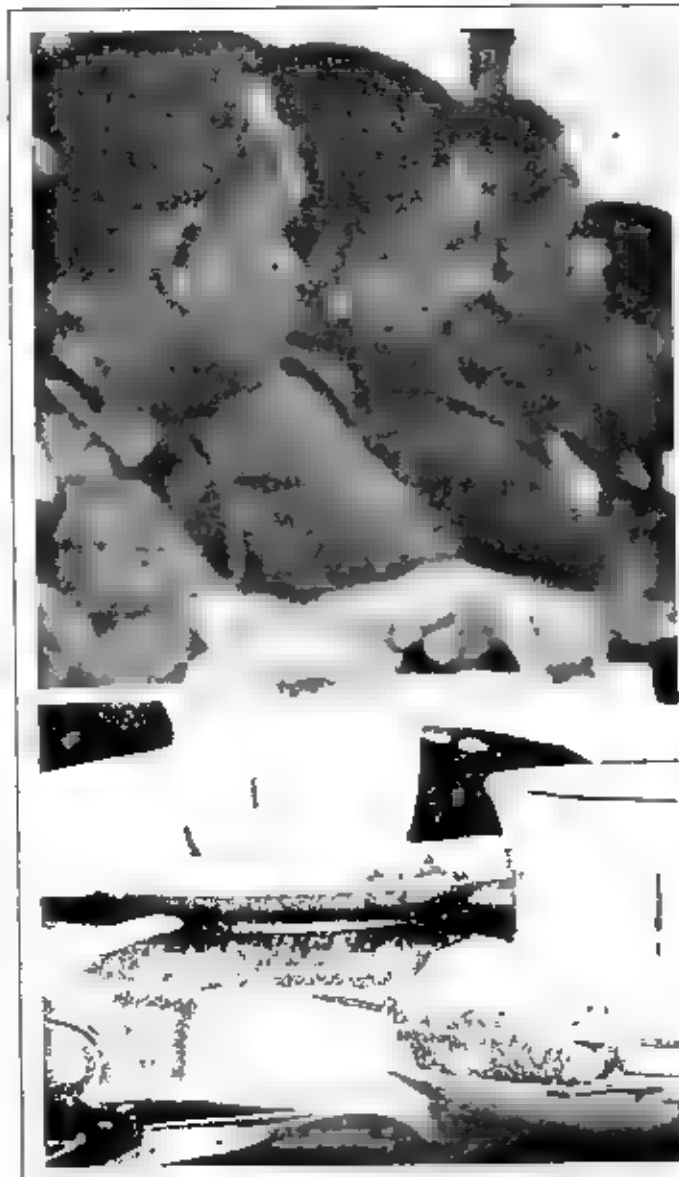
After one dance, Akia again asked for another dance but the woman said she was tired.

When Lusadan told Akia that his companion needed to rest, Akia reportedly punched

him and drew out his gun when Lusadan was about to retaliate.

When Lusadan raised his hands in surrender, Akia reportedly hit him in the eye with the butt of his gun.

Akia was then joined by his two companions who also beat up Lusadan, the affidavit said. When his companions took Lusadan to a taxi, Akia reportedly pulled him out of the cab.



AUSTERITY
The signs of the times are visible in the food served at a command conference recently of top police officials in Davao City. Banana cues and cups of coffee were the main fare at the conference in line with the government's austerity measures.

BY GONZALEZ/PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Ex-treasurer says debt biggest threat

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—Former National Treasurer Leonor Briones has urged the government to start renegotiating with creditors and multilateral financing institutions for better payment terms while the country is still capable of paying its debts.

"It is time that we should mobilize the international community to address our debt problem," she told the INQUIRER.

Otherwise, she added the government would have no choice but to accept the creditors' terms when the country is in danger of defaulting from its loans.

She said the government should

also form a "debt management office" composed of a full-time team of professionals that will study and manage the country's debt problem similar to other countries like Sweden and Ireland.

Briones, 63, was the former president of Freedom from Debt Coalition and director of the think tank Center for Policy and Executive Development.

She was here on Friday as one of the speakers in a conference attended by local executives and legislators in Iloilo.

She now teaches public finance at the National College of Public Administration and Governance at the University of the Philippines in Diliman.

Briones said the country's debt

problem is perhaps the "biggest single threat to the economy."

She said the continuing inability of the government to rein the budget deficit and manage the debt is largely responsible for the downgrading of the country's credit rating and why investors are hesitant to enter the country.

The government's failure to manage the country's debt can be seen in the "staggering increase" in payments, which reached P5.16 trillion in 2002.

"That's a figure with 12 zeros if you can't imagine the amount," she said.

From 2001 to 2002 alone, the total debt increased by P750 billion from P4.41 trillion to P5.16 trillion, said Briones.

Ex-mayor named transport exec

CEBU CITY—The former mayor of Tagbilaran City, Bohol has been named undersecretary of the Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC) for projects.

Jose Torralba is scheduled to take his oath in October, said Bohol Gov. Erico Aumentado.

According to the governor, Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza had given Torralba specific assignment—the Panglao Island Airport Development Project, which is the transfer of the airport from Tagbilaran to the island.

Aumentado said Mendoza had called up Torralba last week and asked him to take his oath immediately but the former mayor asked that he be sworn in next

month because he still had many things to finish in Tagbilaran before accepting his new job.

Torralba has been designated by Aumentado to head the Task Force on Panglao Island Airport.

Aumentado dismissed speculations that Torralba's appointment was just another political accommodation, being one of the allies of President Arroyo in Bohol.

He said he and three Bohol congressmen—Edgar Chato, Roberto Cayes and Eladio Jala—endorsed Torralba's appointment to President Arroyo.

National Economic Development Authority Secretary General Romulo Neri, a Boholano, had backed up Torralba's appointment, he added.

"He is more than qualified, he

is a lawyer, a good businessman and has been an executive for a long time," Aumentado said.

Torralba, 64, was mayor of Tagbilaran City for four terms.

Before he became mayor of Tagbilaran, Torralba served as vice mayor and councilor. At 23, Torralba was considered the youngest elected councilor in Tagbilaran City.

Torralba's term expired last May election. The Lakas-Christian Democrat fielded his wife Alberta, president of the Association of Barangay Captains in Tagbilaran, as candidate for mayor.

She, however, lost to now Mayor Dan Lim of the Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino. Jhunrex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau

West Visayas police start new probe of mediamen's killings

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—The Philippine National Police (PNP) has started reinvestigating the unsolved killings of journalists in Western Visayas.

The Task Force Newsman led by the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group in Western Visayas (CIDG-6) already interviewed some of the families of the victims, said Supt. Jose Jorge Corpuz, CIDG regional director.

Corpuz said they also ordered their provincial offices to submit the case files of the victims to determine if there were enough leads to reopen the cases.

The CIDG would also coordinate with police units that had investigated the cases.

Based on its list, the CIDG-6 is reviewing the killings of broadcasters Rolando Ureta (Aklan), Frank Palma (Bacolod City), Danny Llasos, Severino Arcones (Iloilo City) and newspaper editor Josef Nava (Iloilo City).

But Palma's killer, Kano Tocama, had been convicted of the crime and is now serving his term at the national penitentiary.

The CIDG-6 list only included unsolved cases from 1986. It excluded Iloilo broadcaster Eddie Suede and cub reporter Noe Teneso who were gunned down in a restaurant in Iloilo City on July 1, 1985.

The slain journalists were remembered by their family and colleagues during Mass on Monday, the eve of the 32nd anniversary of the declaration of martial law.

The Mass, officiated by Jaro Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, was attended by around 30 Iloilo journalists and the families of Arcones, Nava, Teneso and Suede.

In his homily, Lagdameo said the Mass "is our way of honoring (the martyrs) for paying the highest sacrifice to uphold press freedom and the people's right to know."

Lagdameo likened the death of the journalists to martyrdom for Christianity.

"The defense and promotion of truth will always remain a challenge and will include some struggle. Some may have to offer their lives for the truth, in imitation of the original witness to the truth, Jesus Christ, who sacrificed his very life for the sake of and in defense of the truth," said Lagdameo.

Ma. Diosa Labiste, INQUIRER correspondent and National Union of Journalists of the Philippines (NUJP) chair in Iloilo, said the Mass was part of the commemoration of "one of the darkest periods for press freedom and democracy in our country."

Rescue of women kept in Malaysia brothel seen soon

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—Hope runs high that the four Negrense women who have been forced into prostitution in Sabah Malaysia will finally be rescued.

Rep. Ignacio Arroyo Jr. (Negros Occidental, 5th District) said the Malaysian police were already closing in on the brothel where the women were being kept and used as sex slaves.

The information, he added, was relayed to him by Mariano Roque, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) administrator, who expressed confidence that the women would be rescued soon.

The operation of the Malaysian police came after Arroyo discussed the plight of the four women with Malaysian Embassy officials.

Arroyo was also scheduled to meet with Malaysian Ambassador to the Philippines Isandar Serudin yesterday.

The congressman also talked with Gen. Abdul Sarin, commanding general of the Malaysian Army in Sabah, who assured him that he would help in the rescue of the four.

The plight of the Negrense women, who came from the town under Arroyo's district, was brought to the congressman's attention by Negros Occidental Vice Gov. Isidro Zayco.

The four women were from the towns of Humagan, Humamaylan, Canuyan and Candom.

Zayco said he was alerted by the women's plight through a text message sent to him by one of the women. The message said: "Vice gub, napeke kami sang agent namon, ginabalingon kami sa kasar duri sa Malaysia (Vice governor, we were fooled by our agent, we are being sold at a prostitution house here in Malaysia)."

One of the women was contacted by local reporters in the cellular phone on Monday.

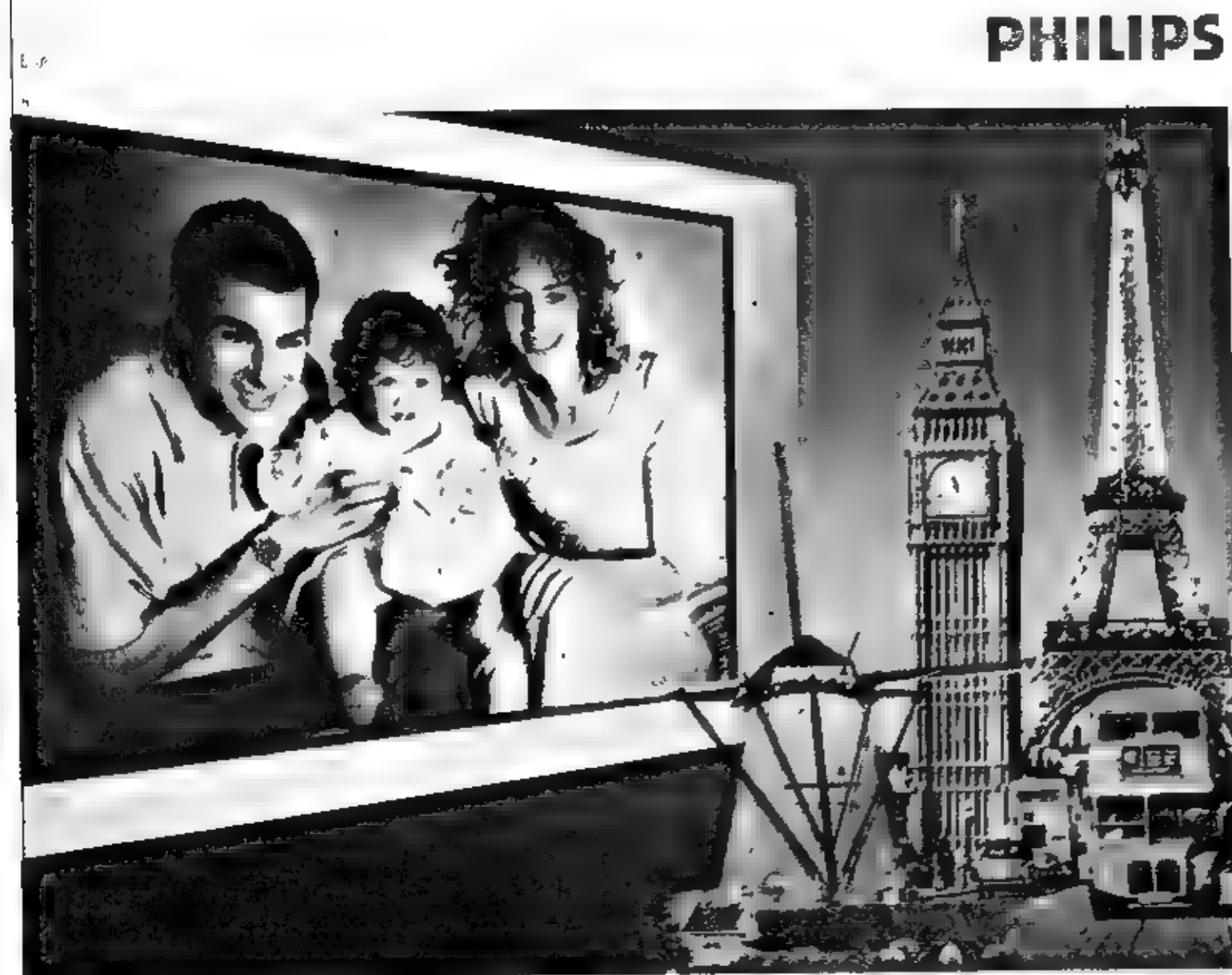
The woman, who asked not to be named, talked in whispers because she said they were being closely watched by the syndicate that kept them locked in a karaoke bar that doubled as a brothel.

She begged to be rescued immediately because their life there was unbearable.

"There are about 20 of us here, four are from Negros, we are waiting to be rescued," she said.

"We cannot escape because they have our passports. They keep watch over us through video monitors. We are on the second floor and the doors out of here are padlocked," she added.

The woman lamented that they never expected that they would end up in a prostitution den. She said she had worked in other parts of the world but never in the kind of job that she is now.



Experience the Best of Europe with Philips Home Entertainment Systems.

Experience the best sights and sounds from your Philips Home Entertainment system, and get a chance to enjoy the sights and sounds of Paris, London and Amsterdam. Win fabulous prizes like trips to Europe, Omega Constellation watches, shopping sprees at Prada and Salvatore Ferragamo, Philips products and a BMW 316i.



Promo Mechanics:

1. The promo is open to all consumers who purchase Philips Consumer Electronics products (Color TV, audio products, DVD & VCD players, Philips Keyrings and Philips-Nike products), which are distributed through their authorized dealers within the Philippines. 2. A promo period is from August 5, 2004 to November 30, 2004. Raffle draw is on December 14, 2004. 3. A minimum purchase of P5,000.00 single receipt, whether on cash or installment basis, entitles the consumer a chance to win any of the prizes in the raffle draw. 4. Each P5,000.00 worth of purchase based on single receipt, entitles the consumer to one (1) raffle number. 5. Each P5,000.00 single receipt purchase is equivalent to 10 raffle numbers. 6. The consumer upon purchase, must send an SMS containing the keyword "PHILIPS" along with the purchase details (outlet name, outlet location, OR number & total amount of Philips products purchased on a single receipt) and personal data (name and address). For Smart and Talk N' Text subscribers send text through 269, for Globe and Sun subscribers send to 2366. The cost of sending is P2.50 per SMS. 7. The raffle draw will be held at the Philips office, 48F, PB Corner, Ayala corner Herrera streets, Salcedo Village, Makati City. This will be made in the presence of a DTI representative. 8. A winner can only win once. If a participant's name is drawn more than once, the prize with the higher monetary value shall be awarded. 9. Winners shall be notified via cell phone and registered mail. The list of winners shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within two weeks from the date of the draw. For prizes that exceed P10,000.00, the 20% Prize Tax shall be shouldered by the winner. 10. Prizes shall be claimed upon presentation of the following: Any valid ID containing picture and address (company ID, Driver's license, Voter's ID, SSS), Proof of purchase Sales Invoice and/or Official Receipt, notification letter from Philips, SMS containing the notification. "In case the consumer's phone is lost, he/she must present an Affidavit of Loss and/or Police Report in lieu of requirements 4, 10. 11. Redemption of prizes shall be at the Philips office, 48F, PB Corner, Ayala corner Herrera streets, Salcedo Village, Makati City from 9:00am - 5:00pm (Monday to Friday). 12. Consolation prizes may be redeemed from the nearest authorized Philips office, namely in Cebu and Davao. 13. All prizes are transferable but non-converible to cash. 14. All expenses related to the movement from the redemption area will be the responsibility of the winners. 15. Travel packages, which include roundtrip airfare (economy class), hotel accommodations (four star) and a day tour for 4 days and 3 nights are valid for 6 months only from date of prize issue. 16. Securing of travel documents and other related travel expenses such as but not limited to travel tax, shall be shouldered by the winner. 17. Prizes not claimed within 60 days from date of notification shall be forfeited in favor of Philips Consumer Electronics with prior approval of the DTI. 18. All employees of Philips Consumer Electronics and its affiliates, their respective advertising agency, promo agency, PR agency, their dealers, content providers (WorlPack and Pinoy Central), participating telecommunications company (Smart, Talk N' Text, Globe and Sun), their spouses and relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining this promotion. 19. Philips Consumer Electronics reserves the right to verify if winning entries are from eligible buyers of Philips Consumer Electronics products.

Prizes at stake

Major Prizes:

One (1) winner of BMW 316
Two (2) winners of Omega Constellation watches
Four (4) winners of Philips 29PT9420 (29") 73.66 cm Pled Plus HDTV

One (1) winner of Amsterdam Trip for two
One (1) winner of Paris Trip for two
One (1) winner of London Trip for two
Two (2) winners of Prada Gift Check worth P50,000.00
Two (2) winners of Salvatore Ferragamo Gift Check worth P50,000.00
Five (5) winners of Philips LX8000 Home Theatre in a Box
Five (5) winners of Philips PAV355 Philips Mini Hi-Fi

Consolation Prizes:

Twenty (20) winners of Philips AZ-515 CDR CR
Fifty (50) winners of Philips MP3 Keyrings

For questions on the promo details and mechanics, please call our Customer Service Hotline at (6-32) 753-3702. Representatives are available Monday through Sunday, 9:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Experience Philips Home Entertainment systems at any of the following exhibits:

Exhibit	Durations	Venue
Western Sta. Lucia Exhibit	Sept. 8 - Sept. 30	Sta. Lucia Grand East Mall, Calcuta, Rizal
33rd BPI Installment Madness	Sept. 9 - Sept. 26	Activity Center, Glorietta 4
SM Southmall	Sept. 29 - Oct. 10	SM Appliance Fiesta (Exhibit) SM Las Pinas
Automatic Center, Glorietta 3	Oct. 1 - Oct. 14	Ground Floor, Glorietta 3, SM Center
SM Citibank Appliance Fiesta	Oct. 16 - Nov. 7	Orbitank Part III at the Megamall Mall, 5th level, Building B
Metrobank X-Mas Bazaar	Nov. 11 - Nov. 14	Christmas Sale of Metrobank
		at the Pavilion in Roxas Boulevard near Toyota Mall Bay
		Podium mall, Ortigas
SM Podium Exhibit	Nov. 12 - Nov. 20	

www.philips.com

EXPERIENCE EVERYTHING
For DTI-NCR Permit No. 1509 Series of 2004

Lowest Fares from Air Philippines!

Check it out! Call or visit any of our ticket offices and authorized ticket agents!

<p>For only P1,208*</p> <p>from Manila to Bacolod, Cebu, Dumaguete, Iloilo, Puerto Princesa and San Jose V.V.</p>	<p>For only P1,308*</p> <p>from Manila to Cagayan de Oro, Davao, and Zamboanga V.V.</p>	<p>For only P1,508*</p> <p>from Cebu to Davao V.V.</p>
--	--	---

*One way fare, exclusive of insurance surcharge and Aviation Security fee

BE SMART! FLY **FOR RESERVATIONS: (02) 855-9000 WEBSITE: www.airphilips.com**

Erap on Revilla: Oh no, why him?

From page A1

his support behind President Macapagal-Arroyo in order to keep his post as head of the Senate public works committee. In the May elections, the younger Revilla ran in the senatorial slate of Mr. Arroyo. Revilla Jr. now chairs the committee.

Trust, confidence

Malacbang defended Revilla's appointment despite questions on his age, health and qualifications.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said the 77-year-old Revilla, who sat in the Senate for 12 years, satisfied the "basic criteria" set by President Macapagal-Arroyo for her appointees.

Revilla, who had undergone spinal surgery twice and a triple heart bypass and suffered two mild strokes, chaired the Senate committee on public works throughout his two terms.

At his oath-taking in Malacbang on Tuesday, he walked up to the dais using a cane and aided

by some of his children.

Bunye said one got appointed if he or she had the President's trust and confidence and had the "perceived capacity" to implement the Chief Executive's programs.

"We believe these two (considerations) apply to Senator Revilla," Bunye said in a radio interview.

He urged critics not to prejudge Revilla.

"Well, what I can say is let's give Senator Revilla a chance to disprove his critics and let's show them that he can implement the President's policy when it comes to reclamation projects," Bunye said.

Land disputes

A militant group raised fears not over what Revilla can't do as an allegedly unqualified chair of the PEA but over what he could do to supposedly abuse the position.

The Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) alleged that Revilla had been harassing farmers in a property in Barangay Cabangan in Silang, Cavite.

The KMP said Revilla was claim-

ing the land as his own and had been trying to remove 37 families of 169 individuals from it.

"This appointment is highly irregular and smacks of political payback. A prize for letting his highly popular son, now Sen. Ramon 'Bong' Revilla Jr., run under Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's ticket to attract more voters," KMP secretary general Juanito Ramos said.

"This also poses an imminent threat to farmers and our lands, particularly in the province of Cavite. Up to now the goons of the former senator are conducting harassment operations in Barangay Cabangan, Silang, Cavite to drive farmers from their lands, which Nardong Pucik is claiming as his own," he said.

The KMP said the PEA was vested with the power and authority to develop and dispose of idle public lands, enter into contracts and loan agreements with private, public or foreign entities, and exercise the right of eminent domain in the name of the Republic of the Philippines.

"With all these powers at his

command, the lands of farmers are in constant peril. The 25-hectare prime agricultural land with coffee and pineapple crops in Silang, Cavite, may be a test case to be used by the PEA to exercise its new position," said Far An, KMP public information officer.

"We are hoping that it will not happen, because the farmers are ready to defend the land to their death. They have been there for more than 50 years and now they are being pushed to leave," An said.

No match

Estrada said Mr. Arroyo's Cabinet was no match to his, which included former Executive Secretary Ronaldo Zamora and Secretary Bienvenido Laguarda (labor), Benjamin Diokno (budget), Horacio "Boy" Morales (agrarian reform), Alfredo Lim (local government), Ricardo Puno (press) and Gregorio Vigilar (public works).

"None of them were involved in any scam," he said.

Estrada noted that a number of

Mr. Arroyo's Cabinet men were facing graft charges before the Sandiganbayan and the Office of the Ombudsman.

They include Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes, Public Works Secretary Florante Soriques, Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap, Ports Authority head Oscar Sevilla and Manila International Airport General Manager Alfonso Cusi.

He said Mr. Arroyo had also lost much of her so-called economic "dream team," including former Finance Secretary Isidro Carnacho and Bureau of Internal Revenue head Rene Reyes.

"And what have they done during their four years in power under (Mr. Arroyo) who is supposed to be a doctor of economics?" he asked.

Estrada said the poor had become poorer and President Arroyo's borrowings bigger than his and former President Fidel Ramos'.

"For the first time in history, the government is begging for money. Who's to blame now?" he said.

Bunye explained that the President revived the PEA after abolishing it in 2002 amid the overpricing scandal of a road named after her father because she realized that its abolition required an act of Congress.

"If it is a legislative-created entity, it is subject to Congress (action). While there is no action yet from Congress on that matter, somewhat has to run the agency," Bunye said.

"In the meantime," he said, the President wanted the PEA to serve as a "Philippine Reclamation Authority."

"In the President's view, Mr. Revilla can fulfill this mandate," Bunye said.

Bunye stressed that Revilla's position was "different" from that of PEA general manager and chief executive officer Teodorico Taguinod.

"What Senator Revilla will do is to be active on the policy-making level," Bunye said.

This distinction has apparently worried Revilla, who expressed his concern that he would be a "mere figurehead" at the PEA.

32 years after, justice still eludes victims

From page A1

"The Arroyo regime has not learned any lessons of the past," said Bayan secretary general Renato Reyes. "It continues to disregard the popular will on issues like new taxes and power rate hikes—sure signs of dictatorial tendencies."

"On top of that, Arroyo has failed to live up to her promise of giving justice to the victims of the Marcos dictatorship," he said, adding:

"Amidst the worsening economic crisis, we see that the government offers no real alternative but more economic burdens and, along with that, heightened repression."

KMU chair Elmer Labog said things were no better even if martial law had been lifted.

He said the rising prices of utilities and basic goods, plus the impending round of tax increases, were signs that living conditions would worsen even more.

At the Bantayog ng mga Bayani in Queson City, parents and children offered prayers for their loved ones who died fighting martial law or who disappeared without a trace.

Carrying a framed picture of her son Manuel, whom she last saw in 1976, Nenita Cruz said the suffering she had seen in his eyes remained vivid in her memory as a mother.

"In honoring the martyrs, we proclaim our determination to be free forever," said Fr. Robert Reyes, who officiated the Mass in honor of those whose names were engraved on the granite Wall of Remembrance.

Reyes said the people should "keep the government under tight watch" because it was possible that the administration would use the fiscal crisis to declare a state of emergency that could eventually lead to a "pseudo martial law."

"Nothing has changed in the course of history," he said. "Repression and state terrorism are

still the character of the Arroyo administration."

Drowned out

In Laong City, four giant speakers mounted at the provincial capital stage and blaring Christmas carols broke up a protest-march by youth and peasants belonging to militant groups Anakbayan, StoP Ex and Anakpawis.

About 200 protesters gathered across from the capitol where a huge banner bearing Marcos' image covered the upper section of the building's facade. The banner was part of a photo exhibit that Marcos' heirs launched when they marked the late strongman's birth anniversary on Sept. 11.

The demonstrators had barely started their program when the speakers started blaring Christmas tunes. The loud sound coming from the speakers forced them to retreat to the nearby City Plaza, where they continued their protest.

"We were drowned out by the tunes coming from the speakers," Our small speakers (mounted atop a hired jeepney) were no match to their equipment," said Romy Sanchez, secretary general of Bayan-Ilocos.

Lito Gorospe, media consultant of the provincial government, admitted having ordered the speakers put up shortly after the protesters were seen making their way to the capitol grounds.

"This is to offset the noise coming from their end," Gorospe said. "The tunes are awfully recycled. It is something that they do at this time of the year. What-ever sentiments they have, we respect them. But we also want them to feel the Christmas spirit."

Sanchez said the protest march was meant to remind Ilocanos that their countrymen were still suffering from the effects of the martial law declared by their favorite son.

"We see the same images of terror that began 32 years ago," he said. In Sorsogon City, more than 1,000 protesters marched

through the city and held a program in front of Camp Escudero to protest Mr. Arroyo's alleged "Marcos-like" rule.

In the Labour Hall of the St. Louise de Marillac College, students who were not yet born when martial law was declared listened to discussions on human rights violations and "the new face of martial law."

Outside, protesters belonging to Bayan, Karapatan-Sorsogon, Bayan Muna, Anakpawis and allied groups condemned what they called "Marcos-like suppression, economic attacks, corruption and human rights violations" of the Arroyo administration.

"Like Marcos, (Mr. Arroyo) violently suppresses the legitimate actions and protests of the people against the continuous increase in the prices of petroleum products, goods, electricity and water, and the drop in social services," said the Alliance for the Advancement of People's Rights (Karapatan-Sorsogon).

In the Labour Hall, Fr. Leo Dolores, chair of the Sorsogon Social Action Foundation, said: "The violation of human rights is still going on; it only changed face... We mourn for the past, and we are thankful for those people (who fought martial law)."

"Until now justice has not been served to the victims of martial law, and the perpetrators are now a gain in power," according to Jerbet Brila of the Task Force Detainees of the Philippines (Southern Luzon).

"We do not forget"

At least 1,000 members of human rights groups in Iloilo, Negros Occidental, Cebu and Leyte joined separate protest actions to commemorate the imposition of martial law.

In Bacolod City, they pushed for the declaration of Sept. 21 as a national day of remembrance and called on the government to indemnify the victims.

"We forgive, but we do not forget," said Fr. Brian Gore, an Aus-

tralian Columbian missionary who, along with two other priests and six lay leaders, was jailed on the trumped-up charge of murder during the Marcos dictatorship.

Gore concelebrated the Mass at the San Antonio Abad Church, which was attended by about 50 martial law victims.

He said some of the 50 had lost their loved ones and the others had been tortured, jailed or lost their homes and property during military operations.

In Iloilo, about 500 Bayan members assembled at the Museo Iloilo before marching through the city and holding a program in front of the old provincial capitol.

Fortunato Pelaez, who was tortured during a 15-month detention at Camp Crane in 1974, noted that despite the ouster of the Marcoses in 1986, political dissenters were still being silenced.

"They justified the repression by calling us communists then. Now, (dissenters) are called terrorists," Pelaez said in a speech.

In Cebu, more than 200 activists gathered in front of the Cebu City Police Office to protest police attacks on legitimate protest and peaceful assemblies.

In Tacloban City, a simple program marked the commemoration rites at the Redemptoris parish grounds on Real Street.

About 80 TFDP members, Commission on Human Rights personnel and history students laid a wreath at the marker to Fr. Rodolfo Romano, a Redemptoris priest who disappeared after he was abducted by armed men believed to be soldiers on July 11, 1985, in Cebu City. Reports from Tina G. Santos, Lella B. Salaverria, Norman Bordenador and Cynthia D. Bolana in Manila; Cristina Armandan, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau; Emir Emano Gamis, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau; Carlo R. Gomez, Nestor R. Burgos Jr., Bernadette Parces and Joey A. Gabieta, PDI Visayas Bureau.

From page A1

three-a-week trips to the center from their home in Parañaque because the family could no longer afford the P90 fare.

Now they're back to their old schedule. Cherry does not know who is paying for their transportation, or the therapy that her 11-year-old daughter needs, but she's deeply thankful.

Jheilyn is afflicted with spastic diplegia cerebral palsy (CP). She is again receiving treatment from volunteer doctors and therapists at the center because of the kindness of an anonymous donor.

The PCPI, a 48-year-old institution serving CP patients, recently launched its Patient Aid program to help bring poor families to the center, located on Sacred Heart Extension in Muntin. This has made a huge difference in the life of the Florentinos, whose other child is blind and mute.

"It's very hard," Cherry tells the broken as she watches her daughter at play with a therapist. "I cannot work because I have to take care of my two kids, who are both disabled. Having free therapy and classes for Jheilyn means a lot because we cannot afford private care."

Many of the CP patients come from all over Metro Manila, Laguna and Cavite, but some travel from as far as Banawe and Cagayan Valley to avail themselves of the free services that the center offers.

The therapy and classes are free, says PCPI administrator Marianita Ong. "But because of the hard times, the rising transportation cost, some of the patients do not come back anymore to continue their treatment," she says.

The PCPI board decided this year to raise funds not only to support the center's free services but also to meet the patients' needs.

Sponsors

The Patient Aid program selects indigent patients and looks for sponsors for them, either reimbursing their transportation expenses or accommodating those from the provinces.

For example, whenever they are in Metro Manila for therapy, the patient and caregiver from Banawe are hosted by a well-off family who also has a CP patient enrolled in the center.

The PCPI center teaches caregivers from the provinces basic physical and occupational therapy for two weeks so that they can administer this to CP patients, who then come back for a checkup after six months.

"That's what we do here," Ong says. "We try to teach them to also help each other, because our patients come from extreme poles—some are quite well-off while others are really poor. Tulongang Iong (It's a matter of helping one another)."

And the PCPI is in an excellent position to teach about helping.

It has served about 10,000 patients since it was founded by Dr. Edgardo Tablan in 1956 as the Elia Cerebral Palsy Project. It is the only institution in the Philippines that gives quality care specifically to people with CP.

The center provides free physical and occupational therapy, special education classes and computer skills training to some 200 patients every month.

Therapy is done three a week, and special education classes daily from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Cerebral palsy is a non-progres-

sive neurological condition that affects the motor areas of the brain, resulting in physical disabilities and even mental retardation in some cases.

There are many types of CP patients. Spastics are stiff, ataxics have balance problems, ataxoids manifest involuntary muscle movements, and others are a combination of these types.

Some cases are complicated by epilepsy, autism, deafness, blindness and mental retardation.

The PCPI estimates that around 150,000 Filipinos have cerebral palsy. Most of them are neglected by their families because of the stigma attached to the disease and the effort required to assist patients.

But some manage to complete their studies and develop skills despite their disability.

Second home

Ong says having a child with CP tends to take a toll on marital relationships because some husbands cannot bear the burden of caring for such a child.

Thus, single mothers are not unusual clients of the PCPI center.

The center accepts all CP patients, although it gives priority to those who need rehabilitation rather than maintenance therapy, and those who cannot afford private care.

The youngest patient at the center is a nine-month-old baby, and the oldest is a 53-year-old woman who has been coming to the center since she was a child.

"This is our second home," says Pe Agundo, whose son Richard has been receiving therapy at the center for the past 20 years. Richard completed his special education classes at the center as well.

"I can ask the other mothers or guardians to watch over Richard when I have to rush to work, and they do the same for me. We all know one another here," says Pe, who lives in Makati and does maintenance for a living.

Having a child with cerebral palsy was a very bitter experience for Pe at the start. But because of the help she got from friends and the PCPI staff, she gradually learned to accept Richard's condition.

Now, Pe takes pride in the little things that Richard can do.

She turns wistful as she recounts her son's dream of having a van someday so that they will not have to endure the occasional rejection when they hail a tricycle to go to the center.

Generosity of strangers

While many of the therapists and doctors at the center are volunteers, the PCPI spends at least P300,000 a month for salaried staff members and the operation of equipment for therapy and classes.

Its funds come mostly from responses to mailers that it sends to addresses in the phone directory, and internship fees from schools who send their students for practicum.

Like its patients, the center has survived for almost 50 years through the generosity of strangers and medical experts.

The PCPI welcomes any assistance in the form of cash, teaching materials, equipment such as computers, supplies, and even personnel who can help in the upkeep of the center and its services. (The center may be reached at phone number 890-8838. Cash donations may be deposited to BPI Account No. 3561-0284-77 or picked up by center staff.)

Lawyers up in arms over high court fees

From page A1

The tribunal on Monday suspended the implementation of some of the increases as well as of the new fees while it hears the complaints of various sectors.

Exorbitant

"It is the general sentiment of the bar, the litigants, the business sector and the public in general that the increase in legal fees have become exorbitant and prohibitive... The imposition of such exorbitant legal fees effectively deters or worse, curtails the right of the public to seek judicial redress for their grievances," the IBP petition read.

It warned that this could have the effect of making the people "bear and suffer their grievances in silence or, worse, take the law into their own hands."

IBP president Jose Cadiz said the increase in legal fees placed majority of Filipinos at a disadvantage and could ultimately discourage people from seeking redress in the courts.

"These increases give the perception that justice is only for the rich in the Philippines," Cadiz

said in a press conference.

A group of lawyers, led by Cadiz and other IBP officers, yesterday marched to Congress to impress upon legislators that while they favored an increase in the judges' pay and allowances, they didn't want this done through RA 9227 which prescribes that the Supreme Court fund the increases through a hike in legal fees.

The lawyers said the additional compensation for judges and justices should be given through direct appropriation by Congress.

"If the government can afford to pay its fat cats a salary of P500,000 per month, why not increase the salary of judges?" said a manifesto from the lawyers' group.

The group said it was "grossly immoral" that the judiciary receives a measly 0.9 percent of the national budget when it has around 25,000 employees.

They noted that in other countries, magistrates and judges were the highest paid public servants. But here, a lawyer in his third year in a reputable Makati law firm already receives more compensation than the Chief Justice, the group's manifesto said.

They suggested taking a chunk of the P21.6-billion congressional pork barrel and giving P7 billion of it to the judicial branch.

This would make the budget of Congress and the judiciary at par with each other at 2 percent, the lawyers said.

This will also mean better pay packages for judges to attract the best and the brightest to the judiciary, and help to insulate the judges from corruption, they said.

While the IBP petition stressed that it recognized the law's "laudable purpose" of ensuring judicial independence by giving additional compensation to members of the judiciary, it said the Constitution should not be violated in the process.

It said RA 9227 had the unintended effect of "derogating" the right of litigants to a speedy disposition of their cases, contrary to the policy set out in the Constitution.

"Unconstitutional"

It said the law was "patently unconstitutional" as it transformed court fees into a tax, or a revenue-generating measure.

The IBP said that RA 9227 called the increased salaries "allowances" and the increased tax-

es "legal fees" when "in reality these are salaries, not allowances and taxes, not legal fees."

The law was also unconstitutional as it delegated "the inherently legislative power to tax" by Congress to the judiciary.

It also noted that RA 9227, being a revenue law, should have originated in the House of Representatives and not in the Senate.

It said the law and the implementing guidelines for the fee hikes also violated the Constitution's equal protection clause. It said the "blanket imposition" of legal fees for all types of motions was clearly prejudicial to the rights of litigants as it lumped together the legitimate litigants with those who file motions that are dilatory or perfunctory in nature.

Named respondents in the petition were the Senate through Senate President Franklin Drilon, the House of Representatives through Speaker Jose de Venecia, Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin, the Office of the Court Administrator, the clerks of the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, the Sandiganbayan and the Court of Tax Appeals, and various individuals serving court processes.

Ex-general widens lead ...

From page A1
ences and began work on a new cabinet. He has also expressed a desire to heal a rift with his former boss, sparked when he quit her cabinet in March on account of his presidential ambitions.

Anung said Megawati's party would instruct members to accept the results of the election, but would not accept offers to work with the new government. "We won't go for power sharing," he said.

Reliable gauge

In past elections, early counting has proved a reliable guide to final results. Preelection polls as well as an independent survey of Monday's vote also forecast a victory for the challenger.

As of Tuesday afternoon, Yudhoyono had 60.2 percent of the vote, to Megawati's 39.7 percent.

The General Election Commission said about 122 million votes were cast, reflecting an 80 percent voter turnout. The new president will be sworn in Oct. 20.

International monitors at polling stations across the vast archipelago said there were no "serious problems" with the poll.

Glyn Ford, head of a 224-member European Union election monitoring team, said it was a "genuine democratic election. Indonesia is ... the largest Muslim nation. It demonstrates that democracy is not culturally bound."

Australian and American officials also hailed the peaceful conduct of the poll. "We congratulate Indonesia on the conclusion of its historic elections," said Adam Ereli, deputy spokesperson of the US State department. "These landmark elections set a strong example for the region and emerging democracies everywhere."

Yudhoyono, 55, studied in the United States. He said his priorities were building up an economy that is growing much slower than Indonesia's neighbors, attacking graft, and providing jobs for the country's 210 million people.

Koran Tempo newspaper reported yesterday that he would name some key ministers in the next 10 days. His campaign officials denied this.

Tough challenges

That Yudhoyono faces tough challenges is more than rhetoric.

The world's fourth most populous nation is resource-rich but bedeviled by rampant corruption, unpredictable courts, weak econom-



YUDHOYONO has not claimed victory but is working on a new cabinet.

ic growth and violent Islamic militants linked to al-Qaida.

As chief security minister, Yudhoyono, a secular Muslim, led the fight against al-Qaida-linked extremists.

"SBY has a very short time to prove himself to be effective," said Jeffrey Winters, an Indonesia expert at Chicago's Northwestern University. "If he doesn't produce on the rule of law, on corruption, on the economy, on jobs, on getting investment going, he's going to be thrown out too in five years."

A leader of the insurgents fighting Indonesian rule in Aceh province said also yesterday that "the war" would continue.

"Yudhoyono is well-educated and he understands the political impact and implications of dialogue, but he is still a military man," Bakhtiar Abdullah, a spokesperson for the Free Aceh rebel movement said in a telephone interview from Stockholm, where he lives in exile. "Whatever happens in Jakarta is irrelevant to the people of Aceh because they are still getting killed, tortured and oppressed every day. The situation in the field has not changed and it will not change."

Yudhoyono has publicly rejected any possibility of allowing the oil and gas-rich province to secede from the sprawling archipelago nation. Nevertheless, international mediators who participated in the stalled talks say they expect the peace process to resume under his administration.

Reuters, AP

FAST FACTS

Country name: Republic of Indonesia
Area: 1 92m sq km (an archipelago of 17 508 islands)
Capital: Jakarta
Language: Bahasa Indonesia (official, modified form of Malay), English, Dutch, local dialects (especially Javanese)
Religion: Muslim 88%, Protestant 5%, Roman Catholic 3%, Hindu 2%, Buddhist 1%, other 1% (1998)
Indonesia has the world's largest Muslim population
Population: 238.45 million (July 2004 est.)
Number of eligible voters: 153.36 million
Government type: Republic
Life expectancy at birth: total population, 69.26 years
Male: 66.84 years
Female: 71.8 years (2004 est.)
Monetary unit: 1 rupiah (Rp)
Per capita GDP (purchasing power parity)—\$3,200 (2003 est.)

Sources: CIA World Factbook at <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/id.html> and Jakarta Post news report at <http://www.thejakartapost.com/yesterdaydebtail.asp?filed=20040608.A06>

What's in, what's not

JAKARTA—Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's big win over Megawati Sukarnoputri in Indonesia's presidential election will mean some changes to the world's most populous Muslim nation. Other things could remain the same.

A guide to what's in and what's not:

• **Cabinet**—Yudhoyono is giving no hints but all eyes are on the positions of finance minister and attorney general. Markets want Boediono, the current finance minister who is widely respected, to stay.

The attorney general's job, critical to battling endemic graft, could go to fiery human rights lawyer Todung Mulya Lubis or former dissident and lawyer Marsilam Simanjuntak. Both are highly respected and the appointment of either would send a strong message that Yudhoyono is serious about tackling graft.

• **Policies**—Expect few big differences. Yudhoyono and Megawati are secular Muslim nationalists, although the former general might be tougher on terror. Fiscal policy should remain prudent, although Yudhoyono's running mate, businessman Jusuf Kalla, wants more spending to boost job growth—a key campaign promise. This could influence the finance minister appointment.

• **Cabinet meetings**—Expect Yudhoyono to lead the meetings unlike Megawati who took a passive role, underscoring what many analysts said was her lack of depth on key issues.

• **Style**—Yudhoyono's cautiousness is legendary and makes some wonder if he has the character to take a stick to Indonesia's vested interests. But he is at ease with the media and Indonesians can expect to hear often from their new president, unlike Megawati who was uncomfortable in the spotlight, spoke through proxies and was noted for prickly responses to reporters at her rare news conferences. After three years under Megawati, the presidential palace will probably get a spokesperson again.

• **Democracy**—Indonesia's first direct presidential poll showed Indonesians want cleaner and more responsive government from Jakarta. A big question remains whether Yudhoyono's popular mandate will be enough to take on parliament, where a coalition critics see as representing the "old" Indonesia accounts for 55 percent of seats. Parliament is crucial to getting legislation passed and approval for key financial policies and senior police and military appointments.

• **Spouses**—Megawati's tycoon husband, Taufik Kiemas, attracted bags of controversy over his business and political interests. This year Kiemas accused Yudhoyono of childish behavior in a public row that accelerated Yudhoyono's resignation from Megawati's cabinet. Yudhoyono's wife, Kristiani Herawati, has moved into politics, assuming a deputy chair position in her husband's infant Democrat Party. Her father was Sarwo Edhie Wibowo, a key figure in Indonesia's feared special forces Kopassus.

Reuters

Iraqi militants ...

From page A1

in 24 hours unless female inmates were released from the Abu Ghraib and Umm Qasr jails.

The US military has denied holding any female prisoners in either of those two jails, saying only two women were in its custody in Iraq. The two, dubbed "Mrs Anthrax" and "Dr Germ" by US forces, are accused of working on Saddam Hussein's weapons programmes, and are being held at a secret high-security camp.

Number one enemy

Washington says Zarqawi, a Jordanian, is its number one enemy in Iraq. His group has claimed responsibility for most of the bloodiest suicide attacks in Iraq since Saddam was overthrown. Zarqawi's group also beheaded US telecoms engineer Nicholas Berg in May, and South Korean driver Kim Sun-il in June.

In Monday's videotape, the militant's statement ridiculed the US president and promised Iraqi women that the honor would be protected. "Oh, you Christian dog, stop your arrogance. The mujahideen will give America a taste of the degradation you have inflicted on the Iraqi people," the statement said.

Pan Arab television station Al Jazeera showed brief clips of the video, with an announcer saying, "[We] will not show the full video because of the violent scenes." Parts of the footage were also shown on Al-Arabiya TV.

The United States has offered \$25 million for information leading to the death or capture of Zarqawi and has launched a series of air strikes on the rebel-held city of Falluja, west of Baghdad targeting suspected hideouts used by his followers.

Families' pleas

Hensley's wife Patty, in an interview with CNN, pleaded for his release for the sake of their 13-year-old daughter.

"I would plead with them to please realize [that] this man does not deserve this fate," she said. "I want them to understand that he has no political value whatsoever. He was just there doing a service for the Iraqi people."

Bigley's family appealed to British Prime Minister Tony Blair for help.

His brother Philip said in a statement broadcast on Sky News television. "If nothing is done, then the two remaining hostages will die by the most horrific means. Prime Minister, we as a family are begging you, please help us."



ARMSTRONG: Gary was at the hands of marauding terrorists.

Bigley's son, Craig, in his own statement aired on the BBC, asked Blair "to consider the amount of bloodshed already suffered."

Hostage crisis

More than a dozen hostages are being held in Iraq and threatened with death unless their captors' demands are met.

Two French journalists were seized a month ago, and two female Italian aid workers were kidnapped in broad daylight in central Baghdad earlier this month.

Over the weekend, a statement purportedly from the group holding the Frenchmen said they were no longer captives but had agreed to stay with the group for some time to cover its activities.

French President Jacques Chirac issued a fresh plea on Monday for their release. He said his reaction to the killing of Armstrong was one of "horror and incomprehension."

"Of course I think of the two French hostages and their Syrian companion—two men who were only doing their job, and doing no harm to anyone," he said at the United Nations. "I appeal solemnly again to justice and humanity, so that our two journalists and their companion be returned to freedom."

There has been no word on the fate of the Italians. An Internet statement purportedly from Zarqawi's group said on Monday that it was not holding them.

Another guerrilla group has threatened to kill 10 workers from a US-Turkish firm unless their company stopped doing business in Iraq within three days. Most of the workers seized are believed to be Turkish.

Reuters, AP, AFP

8 690 / Best Price Guarantee
with 55% Color Display

DBTEL 2051C

1 YEAR WARRANTY

Sales Hotline
(02) 886-6420
(02) 886-6421

Clotrimazole

Treat itchy, smelly athlete's foot with Clotrimazole Canesten Cream. And to prevent fungi from coming back, use Canesten Foot Powder everyday. It's a combination of Clotrimazole, an anti-fungal agent, and a pharmaceutical powder formulation clinically proven to effectively absorb moisture. So feet stay dry and protected from re-infection. From the anti-fungal brand most prescribed by doctors.

Grim end for tot

Bus route scheme revived on Edsa

By Leila B. Salaverria

A 3-YEAR-OLD boy was discovered dead with 20 stab wounds by his grandfather inside their house in Malate, Manila, yesterday afternoon.

Clarence Racho, was found dead at 1 p.m. yesterday inside their house at Camachile corner Singalong Street.

Initial reports showed that the boy's parents, Rene and Marlene, had a fight early in the morning. Marlene left the house later.

When the boy's grandfather came to check on Clarence, he saw his grandson's bloodied body, already lifeless. Investigators are now looking for Rene to shed light on the incident.

By Margaux C. Ortiz

IN ANTICIPATION of the heavy traffic that comes with the Christmas season, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has decided to revive the Organized Bus Route (OBR) scheme to limit the number of passenger buses on Edsa.

"There are too many buses on Edsa that cause severe congestion in the main thoroughfare," said MMDA Traffic Operations Center Executive Director Angelito Vergel de Dios.

Vergel de Dios said many of the buses travel half-full even during peak hours.

The MMDA introduced the OBR scheme late last year to pre-

vent passenger buses from plying Edsa at the same time.

Under the scheme, the buses would be kept in endpoint terminals and then sent out depending on the number of passengers along Edsa at a given time.

Vergel de Dios said they had identified endpoint terminals at the Food Terminal Inc. (FTI) in Taguig, Alabang in Muntinlupa City, domestic airport in Pasay City, Fairview in Quezon City, and Mandalay in Valenzuela City for the re-implementation of the project.

Terminals

The traffic director said they have two existing endpoint terminals in Navotas and

Baclaran where they had recently embarked on a partial implementation of the scheme.

Vergel de Dios said the OBR would be fully operational before Christmas.

"Just because we did not succeed in our past attempts to implement the OBR does not mean that we should give up on it," Vergel de Dios stressed, adding that the OBR could be the long-awaited solution to Edsa's traffic woes.

He added that they would be imposing stiffer fines and more stringent measures to ensure the project's success.

Vergel de Dios said the recent elections that would have made its implementation unpopular for

politicians, and the lack of support from bus operators and drivers had caused the past OBR dry runs to fail.

He said most of Edsa's 6,000 bus drivers were not aware of the new scheme because of the lack of coordination with their operators.

Seminars

To solve the problem, the drivers were made to go through half-day seminars on the basic rules and regulations of the scheme.

The MMDA would also be stricter about queue cards they would distribute to the drivers, Vergel de Dios added.

The queue cards are issued to bus drivers when they leave

their terminals. The cards ensure that the buses do not overtake each other, and so that they move systematically in single file on Edsa's yellow lane.

Vergel de Dios said the drivers were not aware of the cards' importance during the dry runs. Out of the 1,000 queue cards distributed, only a few made their way back to the MMDA. Vergel de Dios said they also encountered problems with mall owners who insisted on collecting high terminal fees.

The OBR, which was first implemented in December last year, was temporarily suspended last March at the onset of the national elections.



STICKY BUSINESS

Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes (center) and Philippine National Police Director Edgar Aglipay attach Komunidad Kontra Katong (KCK) stickers on a jeepney as part of the PNP's continuing anti- "kotong" (mulcting) drive to regain the public's trust in the police.

A stab at land ownership

By Luigi A. del Puerto

THE REAL ESTATE company that owns the land where 6,000 families have been relocated in Marikina City is not keen on demolishing the structures in the area.

Buddy Joaquin of Edgewater Realty Development Inc. said that despite the court rulings in his favor, he would rather have the settlers of Tumana District buy the land than drive them away. "What I want is to give them the first chance to buy the land," Joaquin told Inquirer. He is set to talk with the residents on Saturday.

The Tumana District is one of the city's largest resettlement sites. Residents here, numbering up to 10,000, face eviction after the courts rescinded the memorandum of agreement (MOA) the city entered into with Edgewater in 1994. Higher courts have affirmed the decision of the lower court. The courts said Marikina did not keep its end of the agreement. By rescinding the MOA, the courts effectively declared the settlers as "squatters" anew.

"I want to sell it to them. They can borrow the money from Pag-ibig," Joaquin said. Under this system, Pag-ibig could pay Edgewater in full, while the residents pay Pag-ibig in 20 to 25 years.

PRO-GYM
#1 IN FITNESS EQUIPMENT
CLUB EDITION 2nd GENERATION
ENGINEERED AND DESIGNED FOR HEALTH CLUBS, COMPANY Gyms, CONDOMINIUMS, RESORTS, HOTELS & SCHOOLS AT FACTORY DIRECT PRICES.

SELECTORIZED & PLATE LOADING

HOME Gyms

FREE WEIGHT TRAINING BOOKLET, EXERCISE CHART AND FLEXIBILITY CHART on all purchases. This valuable reference which, plus, step by step, in the world of fitness and bodybuilding.

WE DELIVER! TO ORDER CALL:
742-18-08 FACTORY
741-59-74 OUTLET
743-13-49
FAX 742-61-89

SEPTEMBER, INC.
56 MALCOLM ST. QUEZON CITY

Towing case takes ugly turn Muslim leader gunned down

By Tina G. Santos

CALOOCAN City Mayor Enrico Echiverri is facing several charges after he had cancelled the contract of a firm that had secured the exclusive parking and towing rights in the city because of alleged violations.

The charges have been lodged in the Office of the Ombudsman and the Office of the President.

Rogelio Tan, president and general manager of Jadewell Parking Systems is seeking Echiverri's removal from his post for allegedly violating the Local Government Code, the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act and the Code of Ethical Standards, and for allegedly violating the Constitution, dishonesty, oppression, misconduct in office and abuse of authority.

Tan filed the complaint after Echiverri canceled his contract to operate a pay parking system in the city forged with the previous administration two years ago.

Last week, Echiverri also ordered the banning of all towing services in the city, including those accredited by the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority and the Northern District Traffic Enforce-

ment Group, citing complaints of exorbitant fees, and abuses by traffic and law enforcers.

Tan claimed that he was condemned without trial, adding that he even tried to talk to the mayor to find out the reason for the cancellation, but he had been ignored.

Filing the cases was a "last resort," he said, since he was left with no better option. The businessman said he had invested P35 million in the Caloocan project, and had expected to break even in five years.

Echiverri remained unfazed, explaining he only implemented a city ordinance suspending the firm's operations because of numerous complaints from motorists. The mayor also alleged that Jadewell had not been paying the right amount as stipulated in the contract. Jadewell was reportedly paying the city government only five percent, instead of the agreed 20 percent of gross profit or 50 percent of net profit, whichever is higher.

Tan appealed to Echiverri to give him a chance to explain his side, adding that he was willing to withdraw the charges if Echiverri agrees to discuss the issue with him.

By Nancy C. Carvajal

THE CHIEF of the civilian component of the Philippine National Police's anti-illegal drugs campaign in Taguig, Metro Manila, was shot to death by still unidentified men in front of his house in Maguindanao St. corner Barangay road, Maharlika Village Monday afternoon.

Hadji Samier Esmail, 38, was also the president of the Council of Elders of the Southern police district, according to Taguig chief of police, Supr. Ramon Reyes.

Well-revered

He was also the administrator of the Blue Mosque in Maharlika Village.

The council of elders is composed of Christian and Muslim leaders who maintain peace and order in the area.

Reyes said the victim was a big help in pursuing criminals in Taguig.

"The victim could have gotten the ire of drug lords and had him killed," Reyes said.

According to witnesses, the suspects even shook hands with the victim before the others started shooting Esmail from behind.

Esmail suffered multiple gunshot wounds on the head and body.

The suspects also took the victim's firearm and cell phone.

Police said the suspects left the scene riding in a motorcycle with the body marking "MTO-DA."

Son unharmed

The 12-year-old son of the victim, who was with him when the incident took place, was not hurt.

A certain Benzar Tinggahan was allegedly hit during the crossfire, and was immediately brought to a hospital for treatment.

Police recovered several empty shells and slugs from the crime scene.

MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (MCLE)

Saturday Course
September 25-October 2, 2004
First Floor, Lecture Hall, U.P. Law Center

DATE	SUBJECT	CREDIT HOURS*	LECTURERS
25 September	Ethical Aspects of Government Procurement (Legal Ethics)	Three (3) (9:00-12:00)	Prof. Bartolome Fernandez
	Appellate Practice and Procedure	Three (3) (1:30-4:30)	Justice Hilario L. Aquino
02 October	Updates in Family Law	Three (3) (9:00-12:00)	Prof. Danilo L. Concepcion
	International Arbitration	Three (3) (1:30-4:30)	Dean Custodio O. Parada
09 October	Legal Writing and Oral Advocacy	Four (4) (9:00-12:00)	Justice Hugo E. Gutierrez
	Update in Criminal Law and Procedure	Three (3) (1:00-4:00)	Justice Ricardo P. Galvez
	International Law	Two (2) (4:15-6:15)	Prof. Henry L. Roque
16 October	Environmental Law Update (MCLE Prescribed)	Three (3) (9:00-12:00)	Prof. Martin V. Leonen
	ADR Act of 2004	Two (2) (1:00-3:00)	Prof. Alfredo F. Tadiar
	Update in Legal Ethics	Three (3) (3:15-6:15)	Justice Jose L. Sabio Jr.
23 October	Constitutional Law Reforms (MCLE Prescribed)	Three (3) (9:00-12:00)	Dean Froilan M. Bacungan
	Pre Trial and Trial Skills	Four (4) (1:00-5:00)	Justice Lucas P. Bersamin

REGISTRATION FEE: P10,000.00/package or P4,200/session (morning or afternoon session). The fee is inclusive of snacks, MCLE Accredited Certificates of Attendance and handouts.
FOR DETAILS: PLEASE CALL 926-7137 9265514 LOC. 208-209

MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (MCLE)

One-Week Course
September 27-October 1, 2004
First Floor, Lecture Hall, U.P. Law Center

DATE	SUBJECT	CREDIT HOURS*	LECTURERS
27 September	Legal Writing and Oral Advocacy	Four (4) (9:00-12:15)	Justice Hugo E. Gutierrez
	a) Developments in ADR	Three (3) (1:00-4:00)	Prof. Alfredo F. Tadiar
	b) International Arbitration	Two (2) (4:15-6:15)	Dean Custodio O. Parada
28 September	Update in Legal Ethics	Three (3) (9:00-12:00)	Justice Jose L. Sabio Jr.
	Pre Trial and Trial Skills	Four (4) (1:00-5:15)	Justice Lucas P. Bersamin
29 September	Update in Criminal Law	Three (3) (9:00-12:00)	Justice Diosdado M. Peralta
	Recent Developments in Family Law (MCLE Prescribed)	Three (3) (1:30-5:00)	Prof. Danilo L. Concepcion
30 September	Anti-Money Laundering Act (MCLE Prescribed)	Three (3) (9:30-12:00)	Atty. Celsa Escorial-Sandayot
	a) International Law	Two (2) (1:00-3:00)	Atty. Eric Henry Malloaga
	b) Update in Labor Law	Three (3) (3:15-6:15)	Dean Anjano M. Abad Jr.
01 October	Civil, Criminal and Administrative Litigation of Lawyers	Three (3) (9:30-12:00)	OCA Zanada N. Elagano
	Update in Civil Procedure	Three (3) (1:30-5:00)	Justice Hilario L. Aquino

Schedule of each session includes registration and break. The schedule is subject to change without prior notice. Kindly confirm lecture schedules prior to registration and attendance.

REGISTRATION FEE: P10,000.00/package or P4,200/session (morning or afternoon session). The fee is inclusive of snacks, MCLE Accredited Certificates of Attendance and handouts.

FOR DETAILS: PLEASE CALL 926-7137 9265514 LOC. 208-209

JOIN AYALA PLAN'S

PROMO

AND GET A CHANCE TO WIN!

10th anniversary

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1853 Series of 2004

Pension Plan worth P500,000.00

1st Prize

Pension Plan worth P100,000.00

2nd Prize

Pension Plan worth P100,000.00

3rd Prize

Pension Plan worth P100,000.00

4th Prize

Protect your family with an education or retirement plan from Ayala Plans and we'll give you a P200 Joilbee Gift Certificate—absolutely FREE! Our way of celebrating our 10th Anniversary with our growing family.

Choose from these exciting showcases...

Promo Period: Sept. 1, 2004 to Jan. 31, 2005. See posters and flyers for details. Ask your Sales Counselors or visit any of the Ayala Plans offices nearest you. Or call Large at 753-7399. Arel at 753-7406.

AYALA PLANS, INC.

METRO

Text us your feedback: Inquirer mit name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Desk Editors Canon B. Bibe,
Ester G. Dipasupil

Hot & all
spiced up!

ANTI-'KOTONG' DRIVE

44 Metro cops nabbed

By Nancy C. Canajal

HALF of those arrested for extortion (kotong) and robbery since January of this year were policemen.

National Capital Region Chief, Police Director Arvelino Razon Jr. said that out of 90 arrests made, 44 were Metro policemen, 38 were traffic enforcers of the Metro Manila Development Authority and from local government units, and nine were civilians posing as policemen or traffic enforcers.

Razon also stressed that the campaign against extortion is not only limited to low ranking policemen.

He cited as example the head of the Southern Police Division, Supt. Eneclito Ubales, who has been relieved from his post and is now under investigation.

Ubales was reassigned to the regional headquarters pending results of the investigation, Razon added.

Complaints against Ubales had been aired by leaders of transport and truckers organizations dur-

ing previous dialogues, according to Razon, adding that he had formed a "fleet watch" that would tap members of the transport sector as the command's eyes and ears on the streets.

A weekly dialogue with leaders of major transport organizations in Metro Manila would also be conducted to thresh out problems between drivers and law enforcers.

In addition, Razon said an "honesty team" was created composed of four po-

licemen equipped with cell phones, video cameras and radios. Riding tandem on board motorcycles, the policemen are tasked to respond immediately once they receive a complaint.

The teams are from the Regional Intelligence and Investigation Division of Metro Manila's five police districts.

An Anti-"Kotong" Watch Center (tel. no 838-0434) has also been set up to make reporting extortion activities easier for the public.

SMART

CALLER Ringtones

Text
HOTPICKS
to
286

Heat up your callers with a serving of the hottest hits from SMART Caller Ringtones. So spicy, they'll love to call again and again for more. Another hot treat from SMART!

POP	Title	Ring ID
	Lady Marmalade	100431
	How Am I Supposed To Live Without You	101074
	Imagine	101076

• Send POP to 286 for more POP Ringtones

OPM	Title	Ring ID
Freestyle	I Treat You So Right	100861
Freestyle	I Like The Way	100862
Rivermaya	Umaaraw Umulan	100140
The Mongols	Bakit Nga Ba?	100638
Wency Cornejo	Magpakailanman	100238
Mark Bautista	Ako'y Maghihintay	101179
Andrew E	Ay Naku (Intro Humanap Ka Ng Panget)	101044
Jennifer Ventura	Hanggang Sa Muli	101176

• Send OPM to 286 for more OPM Ringtones

STARS	Title	Ring ID
Sarah Geronimo	Sarah The Teen Princess	100891
Christian Bautista	Inspiration	101136
Sheree	04-Sheree	100496
Rachelle Anne Go	Ako Na Lang Kausapin Mo	100885

• Send STARS to 286 for more STARS Ringtones

Listen b4 u
download!

Just dial 1513 to access
the Interactive Voice
Recording feature.

For more information, visit us online at www.smart.com.ph or call 1513. All other Ringtones, P12, valid for 2 months.

To get the following services

Key in and send to 286

List of newest ringtones

WHATSNOW

Know Title and Ring ID
of a Friend's Ringtone

RING LIST (friend's cellphone number)
(Ex. RING LIST 09208140940)

Help (for more info on new features)

HELP

VIA WAP

Click on **Amazing Stuff** link from
SMART wapsite then select
Caller Ringtones

VIA WEB

Listen B4 U Download!
Log on to
<http://ring.smart.com.ph/smart>

All SMS requests - P2.50 • To unsubscribe, text RING OFF to 286

Get a chance to win cool stuff!
Visit the SMART Wireless Center from July 10 - Oct 9, 2004
and download any Caller Ringtone to qualify.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3340, Series of 2004.

SMART

Nararanasan mo ba ang mga ito:

- ✓ Madalas mauhaw
- ✓ Madaling magutom
- ✓ Malimit na pag-ihing
- 2 Tumutulong kisame

Ang madalas na pagkauhaw, pagkatugom, at malimit na pag-ihing ay maaaring palatandaan ng Diabetes, isang sakit na duma hanggang bukas.

Buli na lang, may mga gamot ang RiteMED para sa Diabetes na de-kalidad, epektibo at abot-kaya. Para sa mga sakit na araw-araw ang gamutan at para di ka magipit sa ibang pangangailangan.

Kumunsulta sa inyong doktor. Ikonang lang ding gamot ng RiteMED ang nararapat sa inyong karamdaman.

May abot-kayang gamot sa mamahaling sakit.

RiteMED
Right medicine, priced right.

Another inmate dead

By Leila Salaverria

DAYS after two Manila City Jail inmates died of different causes within hours of each other, a third inmate followed suit yesterday morning.

Orlando Lopez, 45, in jail on an arson charge, had been confined at the jail infirmary after he said he found it hard to breathe, and started to vomit blood.

He stayed there for three days.

Lopez was rushed to the Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center later after he began to vomit blood again, but he did not make it.

HAVE YOU EVER TASTED WATER THIS GOOD?

Enjoy the Refreshing Taste of Summit Natural Drinking Water In 3 Fun Sparkling Flavors: Apple Pear, Tangerine Lime, & White Grape.

Think Drink
SUMMIT

How to Use This Book

Everyone deserves a treat.

Spartan SEAG calls for fewer golds at stake

By Marc Anthony Reyes

NEXT year's Southeast Asian Games in Manila will not only be austere in terms of hosting costs but also in the number of gold medals to be contested.

The target is 400 gold medals or less when the country takes its turn to host the biennial Games in November 2005, according to the Philippine Olympic Committee.

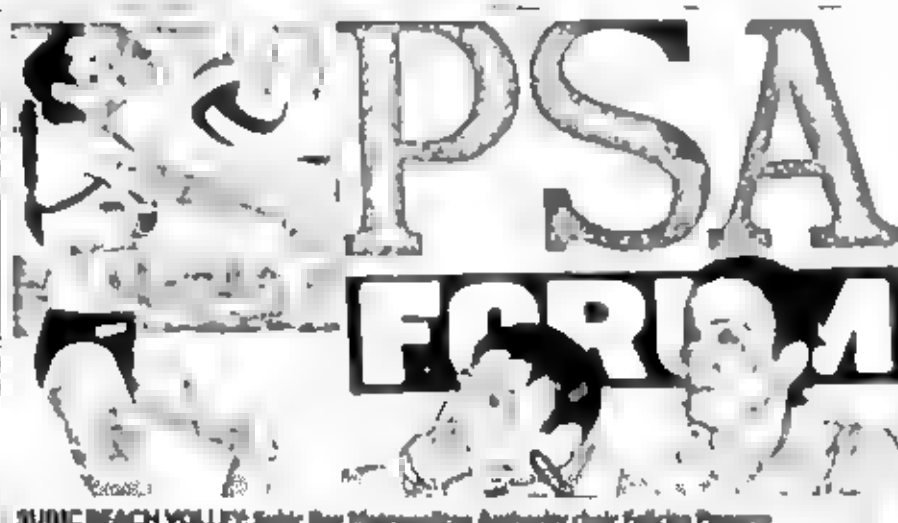
Which events to be cut from which sports disciplines will be tackled by the SEAG Federation council when it convenes on Oct. 11-12 at the New World Hotel.

Thirty or so delegates from 11 member nations will decide the final list of SEAG events, which is currently pegged at 412 in the 34 sports approved for inclusion.

Sources at the POC said the federation is likely to slash the number of events in wushu and shooting, among others.

Wushu listed 26 gold medals to be disputed, exceeding the new SEAG requirement of 5 percent of the total number of golds at stake. Shooting has 18 golds on the menu.

Swimming and track and field dangle the most number of gold medals with 43 each, but the sources said it's unlikely these events will be reduced because these are centerpiece events.



SUBIC BEACH VOLLEY: Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority chair Felicio Paparico and former PSC commissioner Tisha Aburde watch footage of the 2004 Palawan Ladies Beach Volleyball on a giant screen during yesterday's PSA Forum at the Manila Pavilion. Joyce Arino Rosales (left), one of the players who attended the forum, will again compete in the third leg of the tournament slated Sept. 24-25 at the Subic Bay sand courts.

Motoring program readies 10-K run

TELEVISION motoring program Auto Review marks its 10th year with the staging of the first Auto Review 10K Run for Road Safety and Courtesy on Oct. 10 at the Cultural Center complex in Pasay City. The advocacy run, intended to promote awareness on road safety, is open to all runners and will also have a 5K Open and Sponsors' category and 3K run for children 12 years and below in an out-and-back course that

will traverse Route 10. Ron de los Reyes, producer-host of motoring show Auto Review and two-time Henry Ford Motoring Journalism award winner, said registration is ongoing at 5 Aguasan Street, Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City. For inquiries, call 742-0283 or 742-3081. Initial sponsors include Caltex Phils., Acorn Sports Gear, Asahi Glass Corp., Suzu Phils., Ford Group, Mitsubishi Motors, Toyota Volvo, Red Bull

Tan Ho, Alcantara stun seeds, join Olivarez in 2nd rd

PHILIPPINES Joshua Tan Ho and Francis Casey Alcantara ousted their seeded rivals yesterday to reach the second round of the Futures Foundation-Asian Tennis Federation 14-Jrder Series at the Yfiaz Sports Center in Pasig City.

Tan Ho overpowered fourth seed Bo Zin of Myanmar, 6-0, 6-0, to advance against competitor John Franc Gil Largo, who downed Christian Lee of Malaysia, 6-1, 7-6 (4).

Alcantara stunned Myanmar's Min Tan Pho, 7-5, 6-2, to set up a clash with Malaysia's Zia Hwa Chong, who routed Juan Fidel Regis, 6-1, 6-0.

Pablo Olivarez, seeded first in this weeklong event sponsored by the Australian Open, demolished qualifier Simon Samaniego, 6-0, 6-0, to advance against Malaysian Mark Pee Kwang Xin, who thumped Filipino Kim Ivor Saraza, 6-0, 6-1.

Also scoring upsets were wild card Roman Flores who shot down No.5 Ken Patrick Arevalo, 6-2, 6-2; Mark Baice who whipped No.7 Gerald Michael Ngo, 6-3, 6-3; and Miguel Narvaez who blasted No. 8 Mohd Faze of Malaysia, 6-2, 6-1.

Other results: T. Aguilera d. G. Espalido, 6-1, 6-0; K. Abad d. P. Magueta, 6-2, 6-2; A. Ong d. J. Pina, 6-1, 6-2; E. Santos (2) d. K. Cardona, 6-0, 6-0; K.M. Aung (Myanmar) d. R. Pridgen, 6-3, 6-4; H.Z. Tan (Malaysia) d. E. Othman, 6-3, 6-3; J. Carino d. E. Lo, 6-2, 6-1; M. Z. Quidat d. E. Bata, 6-2, 6-1; A. Palmarino d. M. Solis, 6-0, 6-1; K. Sarma d. M. Naga, 6-0, 6-0; R. Santiago d. S. Ochoa, 6-0, 6-0.

Peñalosa: From tragedy to comedy

THE RESULT, a second-round knockout by a well-loved former world boxing champ, was sensational.

Nobody, except maybe Bernard Hopkins, could be gladder than Gerry Peñalosa after he scored that swift stoppage over a young Thai in Mandau City on Sunday.

It was straight out of a movie, great for a fighter on a comeback trail.

It was perfect. Except for a hideous twist in the ending.

Peñalosa played his role to the letter. His foe overdid the victim's part in the script.

After suffering two knockdowns, Thailand's Samrakong Chaitul faintly when Peñalosa moved in for the kill.

No kidding. The Thai fell without taking another punch.

Warned the insightful chronicler Dennis Principe: "Wanna see how Peñalosa stopped his Thai, foe just by his mere act of throwing a punch? Watch IBC News Tonight, 10:30 p.m. on IBC 13."

That was on Sunday.

It was the last thing I'd like to see—unacceptable on-fight kindness from a visiting boxer.

I skipped the newscast which Principe himself ably hosts.

Yesterday, Dennis Principe was on print, this time reporting from ringside for the Manila Bulletin.

"Peñalosa made a successful comeback from retirement with a second-round knockout of a Thai youngster who, fearing more punishment, appeared to have feigned being knocked down without taking a punch."

It was an honest, accurate reportage.

Except for one thing: it was far from a successful comeback.

Whoever hired the Thai, comed as a Peñalosa's partner in his return appearance did the former world champ a great disservice.

Why? Well, it did not help push Gerry Boy's worth half a notch.

Peñalosa had asked for a mean and worthy foe.

He was handed out an early Christmas gift.

So where does Peñalosa go from here?

His career continues to be hounded by bad luck since his aborted WBC super flyweight title defense against Joel Luna Zarate, when he suffered a cut in the second round, and the ring at the Cuneta Asiodome collapsed with former President Fidel Ramos on top.

That was on April 25, 1998.

BARE EYE

Recab Trinidad



Meanwhile there are heartwarming reports that Peñalosa's former wife is now doing well in London with her two daughters, whom Gerry must've seen for the last time in a tragic dugout reunion in nites before that fateful defense against Zarate.

Texted a friend from Cebu: "The ex-wife, Esper, had gotten an annulment and is now enjoying good income working in U.K. Got brand new car. Two daughters studying in good school."

Added the texter: "It's a pity, kaway sa Gerry. Ensayado, in a p-top condition but no good promoter like Atty Rudy Saut. Gerry is like the Lost Command."

Now, enough of that isms and back in to the ring.

After repeated time tries, a momentary retirement, loads of hard work, last Sunday's comedy was the least Peñalosa had deserved.

Given a better promoter who could have demanded a certified top-rate opponent, Peñalosa should've been well back on the road to another world title crack today.

Problem. It was not the first time we had to host sickening Thai patsies, either tuk tuk drivers or waiters, hauled over here and fitted boxing gloves to play the role of willing victims to the hit.

The Games and Amusements Board could insist it could not do anything about the repeated farce.

Truth is that Thai fight managers and promoters appear to be just returning the compliment.

Yes, it's open knowledge that with the GAB playing bund, the Philippines also continues to export ready-to-lose boxers to Thailand.

Despite the hideous records, Pinoy boxers are certified to travel, compete and are routinely fed to the Thai foes to the delight of bloodthirsty ringside fans.

Too bad Peñalosa had to fall victim to this official responsibility.

After what he had done to the country, comic relief was the last thing Gerry Boy needed.

Power Trio

THUNDERBIRD BEXAN XP

THUNDERBIRD ENERTONE

THUNDERBIRD MULTI-GRAIN CONCENTRATE

PROMO MECHANICS:

- Buy the following Thunderbird products: Thunderbird Bexan XP, Thunderbird Enerzone, and Thunderbird Multi-Grain Concentrate.
- Enclose in a legal size envelope the empty packs of Thunderbird Bexan XP, Thunderbird Enerzone and any of the two Thunderbird Multi-Grain products (Concentrate or Conditioner), then write your name, age, address, phone number, signature and the name of the store in a printed paper.
- Send your entry to:

1st monthly draw: October 3, 2004

2nd monthly draw: November 7, 2004

3rd monthly draw: December 5, 2004

Grand draw: January 9, 2005

Each monthly winner will get a gamafowl Power Trio plus Thunderbird gift packs, while the grand draw winners will each get a Gamafowl Power Trio plus a Breeder's Showcase.

Winners can choose their Power Trio from the following Bloodlines: Sweater, Round Keiso and Hatch.

GREAT CARS, GREAT DEALS!

INCLUSIVE OF LTO REGISTRATION (1yr.) • CHATTEL MORTGAGE FEE • COMPREHENSIVE INSURANCE (1yr.) AND AT LOW INTEREST RATES

NEW NISSAN 1.3 XE

P 50,000 DP

NEW NISSAN 1.8 XE

P 80,000 DP

FRONTIER TITANO

P 90,000 DP

X-TRAIL

P 100,000 DP Down On All Variants

Manus Development Corp.
1000 Pinaro Road, Marikina City
Tel: 812-8888 • Fax: 812-8888

Nissan North EDSA Balintawak
1714 EDSA Balintawak, Quezon City
Tel: 833-5331 • 833-5332

Nissan Commonwealth
100 Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City
Tel: 833-5331 • 833-5332

Nissan UN Avenue Manila
1232 Broadway Bldg., Unsub. Plaza Manila
Tel: 432-1000 • 432-1001

Nissan Gallery Ortigas
100 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Ortigas Center
Tel: 833-5331 • 833-5332

Nissan Westgate
1000 Pinaro Road, Marikina City
Tel: 812-8888 • Fax: 812-8888

NISSAN

URBL OPENER

Huskers debut

THE QUEZON Province Huskers battle Lactovital-Cebu Province in the inaugural of the United Regional Basketball League at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday at the New Cebu Coliseum.

This will be the first time that Quezon, under the helm of Gov. Wilfredo Enverga, takes a direct involvement in basketball.

Handled by veteran coach Francis Rodriguez, the team took on the moniker Huskers to emphasize the importance of Quezon's coconut industry.

SPORTSWATCH

PBA hits Robinson's malls

PBA FANS get a chance to interact with their favorite players outside of the playing venue as the pro league lined up a series of activities at the various Robinson's malls beginning Saturday. Dubbed "One-on-One at Robinson's Malls," the event features touring displays like hand and shoe prints, a photo gallery, a giant inflatable basketball hoop, jersey and PBA merchandise booths. The PBA interactive centers are set up on two designated Robinson's malls each week till Oct. 31 to be spiced up by a rotation of visits by the players. Robinson's Place-Manila and Robinson's Cainta will stage the inaugurations Sept. 25-Oct. 3 with Robinson's Novaliches and Robinson's Imus as the next hosts on Oct. 4-10. The event, organized by the PBA Properties Inc. and supported by Acel, FedEx, Malt and More, and Air 21 is also expected to drum up interest in the pro league, which kicks off its new season on Oct. 3 with the start of the PBA All-Filipino Cup pitting San Miguel Beer versus Talk 'N Text at the Araneta Coliseum.

Trento FC tops Agusan tilt

THE TRENTO Woodcarver's Football Club beat defending champion Patinay National High School, 2-1, in a shoot-out to take the top trophy of the Red Ribbon Football Fiesta at the D. O. Plaza Memorial Sports Complex in Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur. The Trento squad had to travel two hours before clinching the victory, which ended at 1-1 after regulation on a goal each by Romer John Cultura of Patinay in the 19th minute and Jimbo Sinangote of the Woodcarvers. In the shoot-out, Jonmar Ely, Woodcarvers' goalkeeper, parried away four attempts to be the day's hero. Patinay National High's Rodolfo Duran was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

Greenwich draws 26 schools

TWENTY-SIX high school teams will see action in the Inaugural Greenwich Girls Invitational Volleyball Tournament starting Sept. 25 at the Rizal High School in Pasig City. Among the schools are Colegio San Agustin, Assumption College, Grace Christian School, St. Paul-Pasig, Woodrose Alabang, OB Montessori Greenhills, Rizal High School, Diliman Preparatory School, Hope Christian School, Reddy International, St. Francis School-Manila, OB Montessori Las Pinas, OB Montessori Sta. Ana, ICA Dasmariñas, St. Mary's Academy, Caritas Don Bosco, ICA Greenhills, Olivarez College, Miriam College, Emilio Aguinaldo College, St. Jude Catholic School, Trinity College, International School Manila, Poveda Learning School, Southville Trif 1 School and JASMS.

GCAP derby resumes

SONNY Lagon of Cebu and partners Ramon Manzanera and Tony Faustino of Davao, the current leaders in the Staglighter of the Year race, try to maintain their shaky lead when the Gentlemen Cockers Association of the Philippines (GCAP) 5-Stage Derby series resumes tonight at the Las Pinas Coliseum. This will be the third of the seven-leg derby series. The fourth leg unfolds on Sept. 28. Meanwhile, Las Pinas Coliseum also presents the Clean Jp 5-Stage Derby on Oct. 25. For details, contact 8743910 and 8731040 or 0920-5609404.

Sagupaan event tomorrow

THE CLASH of Metro Manila and Central Luzon cockers takes place tomorrow at the Pangasinan Coliseum in San Fernando City. Dubbed as the Sagupaan Complexor 3000 5-Stage Derby, the event stakes P500,000. The Metro Manila and Central Luzon teams will be fielding in highly touted cockers in the event with an entry fee of P22,000, with a minimum bet of P11,000. For inquiries, contact 6963943 and 6398365.

LGBA series unfurls

THE LGBA stag series 2004 unfolds Sept. 25 at Roligon Mega Cockpit for the first-round eliminations. Action shifts to Araneta Coliseum on Sept. 27 and 29 for the second-round eliminations and championship. Among the favorites on the first day of eliminations at Roligon are the entries of Sonny Lagon, Jaime Arandia, Joey Lapid and Baby Canillas; Dr. Ayong Lorenzo, Charlie Carlos and Dr. Ding Jose, and Wilson Go and Don Neil de la Peña. For details, call 9267808/924-5072 (teletax), 9245051 local 128 or through 0920-5851940 (Look for Taz Lunasco).

Scribe's dad passes away

MAXIMO B. Oredo Sr., father of Turnbok sportswriter Lito Oredo, joined our Creator last Sept. 18 at the age of 72 due to cardiac arrest. His body lies in state at the San Jose chapel in Mandaluyong City. He is survived by wife Obdulia and children Nep, Nap, Adam, Jose, Imelda, Lito, Maximo Jr. and Gabriel. Interment will be on Friday at Mandaluyong Catholic Cemetery.

PRACING TIPS

AT SELL BY 101, 999

Race 1-3 Staying Tall Down
2. Tiger Shadow 3. Air Strike
4. Fugate

Race 2-1 Wabbed Forever/Wabup Forever 2. Rivaldo 3. Juan Marcan
4. Maple Bay Love 5. Hello Africa

Race 3-1 Lord of the Ring 2. Bullish Dream 3. Time to Party 4. Native Talent

Race 4-1 Tibeca 2. Naughey 3. Sugar Ray 4. Shazzy Star 5. Silver Hearted

Race 5-1 Dow Jones 2. Mesario 3. Golden Harry 4. Prince Valiant

Race 6-1. Holly King 2. Strong Calley 3. Grant Jester 4. Whirl to Fly
5. Dynamic Jester

Race 7-1. Mr. Snapping 2. Asternegosity 3. Girl is Good 4. Big Rock
5. Prince of Calm

Race 8-1. Solid Rock 2. Gifted Angel 3. Parrot New 4. Just Will 5. Zero Gravity 6. Silver Spring

Gonzales gains nat'l chess lead

TAGAYTAY CITY—International Master Jayson Gonzales posted his third straight win at the expense of National Master Roland Joseph Perez in the fifth round yesterday to share the lead in the National Chess Championships at the Tagaytay International Convention Center here.

Gonzales now has 3.5 points, the same output of IM Chito Garma and NMs Rolando Nolte and Darwin Laylo. Garma drew with IM Barlo Nadera after 15 moves.

The event will determine the last three members of the men's team to the Chess Olympiad on Oct. 14-31 in Majorca, Spain.

Marlon Bernardino, Contributor

Aguilar rules Camel moto

ROXAS CITY—Seven-time national champion Glen Aguilar underscored his billing as the country's No. 1 rider by ruling the kickoff leg of the 2004 Camel Supercross Championship Series here Sunday.

Aguilar swept all four races in the centerpiece Pro 125 and Pro Open categories to make a big head start in this three-part series organized by the National Motorcycle Sports and Safety Association (Namssa) and sponsored by Camel cigarettes.

The multirided campaigner from Las Piñas City and reigning FIM-Asian champion outduelled veteran Jovie Saulog of Shell-Speedshoppe and Beber de la Cruz of Caltex before an overflow crowd at the Roxas City Stadium.

"I'm just so glad to win this prestigious event," said Caltex rider Aguilar, whose victory boosted his chances to represent the country in the FIM-Asian Supercross Championships in Macau next month. Camel brand marketing manager Edward



AGUILAR: Sweep

Cruz awarded the trophies and cash prizes to the winners. He was assisted by Namssa president Ken Falco, Namssa consultant for the Visayas Jojo Rodan and Fortune Tobacco officials led by Bonifacio Chua and Jerry Mairnis.

Caltex took the team championship after six of its riders filled up six of the first eight places in both the Pro 125 and Pro Open classes.

Kenneth San Andres also stamped his class by finishing fourth in both the Pro 125 and Pro Open. He also swept the Novice 125 and Novice Open Production.

Johnny Garcia, Jerry Beech and Alvin Beech also finished among the frontrunners in the Pro Open.

OPENS SEPTEMBER 29!

MYRCS ALL AGES ADMITTED FROM THE DIRECTOR OF 'RUNAWAY BRIDE' & 'PRETTY WOMAN'



KATE HUDSON JOHN CORBETT



SONORANCH ACQUIRES THE HIT SINGLE "EXTRAORDINARY" FROM THE FILM. RUNAWAY BRIDE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF 'RUNAWAY BRIDE' & 'PRETTY WOMAN'. Disir buted by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

Winston in CONCERT

Maximilian

Live

groove non-stop with the land's top bands

Freestyle Prime Council Toy Symphony

Sept. 24, 2004 Fri. 7:30pm

SW the Megastrip

Winston

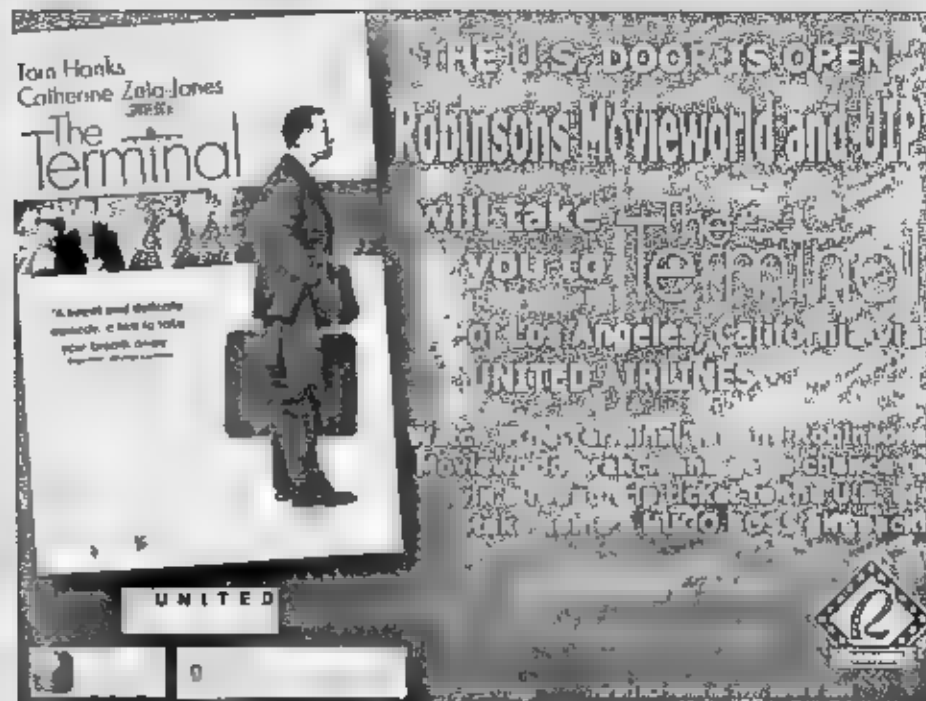
ULTRA

NO MINORS ALLOWED. Open to persons 18 years old and above only. Organizers reserve the right to refuse entry to those without IDs as proof of age.

Government Warning:
Cigarette Smoking is Dangerous to your Health

A21

ENTERTAINMENT

Cristy pata, a second again
and other boob tube boo-boos

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

HOST: Kung hindi ako sexy, gusto ko mag-ing management (Talaga ha?)

Host: What do you think were the best assets or talents you were born with?

Guest: Born with? Saan ako ipinanganak? Ang province ko is Davao.

(No comment)

Host: Would you agree to undergoing plastic surgery?

Guest: Siyempre, para maganda for the sponsor—para talong maganda ako sa aming fictional (Palakpak naman diyan!)

Host: What would the effect of plastic surgery be on you, do you think?

Guest: 'Pag nagpareto ako, 'yun ang magbigay sa akin ng confident! (Mispaced nga lang!)

Host: What kind of role do you want to play in your first starring movie?

Guest: Siguro, sex comedy ang magiging ana ko. (Anong ano? Tignan mo nga kami...)

Host: In your restaurant, what is the dish that people order most often?

Guest: Definitely, yung crisy pata. (Ang pata ni Cristy? Wow, sarap natin!)

Host: What do you think is your edge over other sexy actresses?

Guest: Edge ko? Age? Edad? Twenty-one na ako ngayon. (No comment naman!)

Host: What is your motto?

Guest: Siyempre, gusto kong yumaman! (Motto ba yon? Hindi, a.)

Host: Will you apologize to the people who say you did them wrong?

Guest: I will—I apologize talaga. And, ulitin ko, for a second again, I'm sorry. (Ay, for a second again!)

Host: What was your feeling after your conjoined twins were surgically separated?

Guest: Of course, I'm proud to say to the world, I have two alive boys and normal! (Quote, unquote.)

Host: How can our viewers get tickets to your concert?

Guest: Just stay tuned to this show, maningay kami today ng three tickets for two. 'Eka, tana ba yon? (Aba, ewan namin sa yon!)

Host: What is the weather advisory for students today?

Co-host: The latest

CRISTY: A29

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

<p>Premiere Theatre 1. BOURNE SUPREMACY 2. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 3. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 4. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 5. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 6. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 7. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 8. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 9. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 10. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY</p>	<p>Filminvest 1. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 2. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 3. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 4. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 5. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 6. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 7. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 8. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 9. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 10. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY</p>	<p>EASTWOOD CINEMAS 1. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 2. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 3. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 4. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 5. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 6. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 7. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 8. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 9. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 10. THE BOURNE SUPREMACY</p>
---	---	---

Visayas & Mindanao

<p>CITY CEBU 1. ANACONDAS 2. THE TERMINAL 3. PRINCESS DIARIES 2 4. THE NOTEBOOK 5. EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING 6. TOOLBOX MURDERS 7. FENG SHUI 8. BOURNE SUPREMACY</p>	<p>CITY ILOILO 1. DODGEBALL 2. RESERVED 3. THE TERMINAL 4. THE NOTEBOOK 5. FENG SHUI 6. ANACONDAS 7. RESERVED 8. LAWS OF ATTRACTION</p>	<p>CITY DAVAO 1. BOURNE SUPREMACY 2. DODGEBALL 3. FENG SHUI 4. THE NOTEBOOK 5. PRINCESS DIARIES 2 6. THE TERMINAL 7. DEAD PEOPLE 8. BANGKOK HAUNTED 2</p>
---	--	--

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

movietime
CINEMA

NOW SHOWING

<p>MEGAMALL 1. BOURNE SUPREMACY 2. SAVED 3. HEAVEN'S POND 4. SECRETARY 5. FENG SHUI 6. EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING 7. THE TERMINAL 8. 13 GOING ON 30 9. THE NOTEBOOK 10. ANACONDAS 11. MINDHUNTERS 12. DODGEBALL</p>	<p>CITY FAIRVIEW 1. SECRETARY 2. TOOLBOX MURDERS 3. THE NOTEBOOK 4. EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING 5. ANACONDAS 6. FENG SHUI 7. BOURNE SUPREMACY 8. SAVED 9. DODGEBALL 10. MINDHUNTERS 11. 13 GOING ON 30 12. THE TERMINAL</p>	<p>CITY MANILA 1. SAVED 2. THE TERMINAL 3. THE NOTEBOOK 4. EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING 5. 13 GOING ON 30 6. BOURNE SUPREMACY 7. HEAVEN'S POND 8. ANACONDAS 9. FENG SHUI 10. DODGEBALL 11. TOOLBOX MURDER 12. MINDHUNTERS</p>
---	--	---

CITY NORTH EDSA
1. ANACONDAS
2. 13 GOING ON 30
3. FENG SHUI
4. THE TERMINAL
5. SAVED
6. HEAVEN'S POND
7. EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
8. BOURNE SUPREMACY

CITY STA. MESA
1. PETA
2. SAVED
3. BOURNE SUPREMACY
4. HEAVEN'S POND
5. FENG SHUI
6. THE NOTEBOOK
7. 13 GOING ON 30
8. THE TERMINAL
9. EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
10. ANACONDAS

CITY MARILAO
1. 13 GOING ON 30
2. THE TERMINAL
3. BOURNE SUPREMACY
4. FENG SHUI

CITY PAMPANGA
1. EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
2. BOURNE SUPREMACY
3. TOOLBOX MURDERS
4. 13 GOING ON 30
5. THE NOTEBOOK
6. FENG SHUI

CITY BACUOR
1. BOURNE SUPREMACY
2. FENG SHUI
3. DODGEBALL
4. 13 GOING ON 30

CITY LAS PIÑAS
1. SAVED
2. 13 GOING ON 30
3. EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
4. BOURNE SUPREMACY
5. THE TERMINAL
6. MINDHUNTERS
7. FENG SHUI
8. BOURNE SUPREMACY
9. ANACONDAS
10. HEAVEN'S POND

CITY BICUTAN
1. BOURNE SUPREMACY
2. FENG SHUI
3. MINDHUNTERS
4. EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
5. SUPER CENTER
6. SUCAT
7. FENG SHUI
8. BOURNE SUPREMACY
9. ANACONDAS
10. HEAVEN'S POND

CITY DASMAS
1. 13 GOING ON 30
2. FENG SHUI
3. BOURNE SUPREMACY
4. EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING

CITY LUCENA
1. ANACONDAS
2. LAWS OF ATTRACTION
3. DODGEBALL
4. FENG SHUI

CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
1. FENG SHUI
2. THE TERMINAL
3. DEAD PEOPLE
4. BANGKOK HAUNTED 2

THE PODIUM
1. WALKING ON WATER
2. CHOPPER
3. SAVED

2nd AUSTRALIAN FILM FESTIVAL
September 22
Walking on Water 7:00 pm
Chopper 5:00 pm
September 18-24
September 25-26
September 25-26

ADMISSION IS FREE

For Seat Reservation call 633 8076
LATE NIGHT SCREENINGS DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS

THEATRE-MALL GREENHILLS

1 BOURNE SUPREMACY
11:00 1:15 3:30 5:45,
8:00 10:15
PG-13

2 SAVED
11:00 1:10 3:25 5:40,
7:55 10:10
PG-13

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224466

September 24 & 25 **SHERYN REGISON A MONHER NOTE** 8:00PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-8728 OR 721-0835

Cristy pata . . .

report for today is, due to the rains and floods, clashes have been suspended. (O, wala raw pashok ngayon!)

'Crossings'
This month, "Crossings" on Discovery Channel features Chinese explorer Wang How Man. He is the founder and president of the China Exploration and Research Society and

is regarded as one of China's leading experts on exploration and conservation. The eighth episode of "Crossings" will be telecast at 7 p.m. on Sept. 26, with a replay at 11 p.m. on Sept. 29.

Indian Thali food festival

Spices at The Peninsula Manila is holding (until Oct. 17) an Indian Thali

of the highest grossing movies of 2004. Filmed in Aramaic and Latin, the DVD comes with both English and Tagalog subtitles. The VCD and DVD are available at all Video City, Astrovision and Odyssey outlets nationwide.

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-9) Quezon City

1 FENG SHUI
10:30, 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 10:20
PG-13

2 BOURNE SUPREMACY
12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 10:01
PG-13

3 THE TERMINAL
11:05, 2:40, 4:55, 7:00, 10:45
GP

4 THE EXORCIST
11:40, 2:20, 4:40, 7:40, 10:30
PG-13

For inquiries call **687-6963**
GUARANTEED SEATS
ADULTS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

OPENS TODAY!
MTRCB PG-13

"MORE WIT AND DARING THAN 'MEAN GIRLS'"
KENT TURNER FILM-FORWARD.COM

Mandy Moore

Jena Malone Macaulay Culkin Patrick Fugit

Saved!

MEET THE STUDENTS OF A.E.C. HIGH.
HEAVEN HELP US.



DID YOU KNOW...



COMEDY king Dolphy was seen two Sunday nights ago at Greenbelt 1 in Makati on his way to watch Spielberg's "The Terminal." The star of "Home Along da Airport" was in white long sleeves, white pants and white Nike cap. He was accompanied by

a middle-aged woman who was definitely not his live-in partner Zsa Zsa Padilla

OPENS TODAY!
MTRCB R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP

SHE MARRIED A MUNSTER. NOW CAN SHE SURVIVE THE HONEYMOON IN HELL?

FARA REID
KIP PARDUE

HEAVEN'S POND

"2 Thumbs Up!" - Fiert & Roeper
MIND-BLOWING SUSPENSE BEGINS SEPT 29!
MTRCB R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OLD AND UP

JOHNNY DEPP

SECRET WINDOW
SOME WINDOWS SHOULD NEVER BE OPENED

Distributed by **COLUMBIA PICTURES**

A Comedy about a Second Chance at First Love!
2ND '1ST LOVE' REWIND WEEK
MTRCB PG-13

A TERRIFIC DATE MOVIE

"THE BEST ROMANTIC COMEDY OF THE YEAR"
City Line 2003 Poll Winner

"THU MRS UP! SEE IT!"
Rolling Stone 2003 10th Anniversary Special

"A FEEL GOOD COMEDY THAT WILL KEEP YOU SMILING"
New York Times 2003 Critic's Pick

"YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A TEEN TO ENJOY 'GOING ON 30'"
Glamour 2003 Teen Pick

jeanette garner
13. GOING ON 30

Distributed by **COLUMBIA PICTURES**

OPENS TODAY!
MTRCB R-13

From the producers who gave you JULIA STILWELL "The Princess & Me" and the original "Amorino" comes the most romantic and sensual...

WINNER
2003 NATIONAL BOARD OF FILM REVIEW

JOURNEY
Beyond
Pleasure

secretary
WAVE TO LOVE

POWER PLANT
Greenhills Shopping Center, Ortigas Avenue, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila

NAZIM PG-13 11:40, 1:50, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20, 10:30	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY PG-13 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 8:50	THE TERMINAL GP 12:30, 2:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
FENG SHUI PG-13 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING R-13 12:12, 3:35, 6:00, 7:25, 9:50	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY PG-13 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30

MATINEE P10.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

Star group of cinemas movie guide
INDO BY 150-150

starmall
Tel. No. 728.81.80

METROPOLIS
Tel. No. 888.42.85

starmall
Tel. No. 873.60.04

Takawa Tngin
Exorcist
Feng Shui

Secretary
Takawa Tngin
Amorino
Exorcist

FREE!
Cinema Pass

SHANG CINEPLEX

1 FENG SHUI PG-13 11:40, 1:50, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20, 10:30	3 THE TERMINAL GP 12:30, 2:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
2 BOURNE SUPREMACY PG-13 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 8:50	4 EXORCIST R-13 12:12, 3:35, 6:00, 7:25, 9:50

PREMIERE THEATRE **BOURNE SUPREMACY**
PG-13



ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS FOR ALL BRANCHES 635-5555
Visit us: www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

TOP MOVIE THEATER

22nd Annual National Consumer's Quality Award 2004 Family Consumers Choice Award 2003

NOW SHOWING

GALLERIA

632-9115 to 16



THE BOURNE SUPREMACY

2 SAVED	3 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	4 13 GOING ON 30
5 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	6 HEAVEN'S POND	7 SECRETARY
8 FENG SHUI	9 THE NOTEBOOK	10 THE TERMINAL

MATINEE Monday to Friday 10 am-4pm except holidays
Matinee Price: P80 for one level cinemas

Regular Price: P150 THX P95/65 for two levels cinemas / P95 for one level cinemas

ERMITA

536-7808 to 12

1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	2 13 GOING ON 30	3 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	4 SECRETARY
5 HEAVEN'S POND	6 FENG SHUI	7 SAVED	

METRO EAST

682-8193/99 / 682-8280

1 HEAVEN'S POND	2 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	3 THE TERMINAL	4 SAVED	5 TAKAW TINGIN
6 13 GOING ON 30	7 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	8 FENG SHUI		

NOVALICHES

935-3229 / 31

1 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	2 MINDHUNTERS	3 FENG SHUI	4 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	5 THE TERMINAL	6 13 GOING ON 30	7 SAVED	8 ANACONDAS
--------------------------	---------------	-------------	------------------------	----------------	------------------	---------	-------------

CitilSquare MALABON

280-0965/2575

1 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	2 FENG SHUI	3 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	4 TAKAW TINGIN
--------------------------	-------------	------------------------	----------------

CAINTA

240-6581

1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	2 FENG SHUI	3 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	4 TAKAW TINGIN
------------------------	-------------	--------------------------	----------------

LIPA

267-3884 / 312-5878

1 THE TERMINAL	2 13 GOING ON 30	3 TAG-INIT	4 FENG SHUI	5 ANACONDAS
----------------	------------------	------------	-------------	-------------

STA. ROSA

680-8337-8867

1 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	2 BANGKOK HAUNTED 2	3 FENG SHUI	4 LAWS OF ATTRACTIONS	5 THUNDERBIRDS
--------------------------	---------------------	-------------	-----------------------	----------------

DASMARINAS

852-2125 / 416-4332

1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	2 13 GOING ON 30	3 LAWS OF ATTRACTION	4 MINDHUNTERS	5 FENG SHUI
------------------------	------------------	----------------------	---------------	-------------

ANGELES

1 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	2 FENG SHUI	3 LAWS OF ATTRACTION	4 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
--------------------------	-------------	----------------------	------------------------

STARMILLS

875-1927 / 961-5278

1 THE TOOL BOX MURDERS	2 TAG-INIT	3 FENG SHUI	4 THE NOTEBOOK	5 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	6 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
------------------------	------------	-------------	----------------	--------------------------	------------------------

IMUS

471-1100 / 875-5858

1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	2 MINDHUNTERS	3 LAWS OF ATTRACTION	4 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	5 FENG SHUI	6 JANDARA
------------------------	---------------	----------------------	--------------------------	-------------	-----------

BACOLOD

447-0450/55

1 ANACONDAS	2 THE TERMINAL	3 FENG SHUI	4 DODGEBALL	5 HAMOG	6 THE ALAMO
-------------	----------------	-------------	-------------	---------	-------------

ILOILO

336-8070/76

1 ANACONDAS	2 DODGEBALL	3 FENG SHUI	4 THE TERMINAL	5 LAWS OF ATTRACTION	6 THE NOTEBOOK
-------------	-------------	-------------	----------------	----------------------	----------------



at ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

See'emall!



AYALA CINEMAS



Movies/schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729-7777

ATC	G1	G4	GB3	ACC
1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	1 FENG SHUI	5 THE NOTEBOOK	1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
2 SAVED	2 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	2 SAVED	6 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	2 THE NOTEBOOK
3 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	3 HEAVEN'S POND	3 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	7 THE TERMINAL	3 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
4 THE TERMINAL	4 FENG SHUI	4 13 GOING ON 30	8 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	4 FENG SHUI
5 FENG SHUI		5 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	9 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	5 THE TERMINAL

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	TOWN	AYALA CENTER
GPI APPLIANCE MADNESS September 9 to 26 2004	PHILIPPINE ROBOTICS OLYMPIA September 24 TOWN CHEERS CHEERING COMPETITION	CEBU MEDICAL SOCIETY'S MEDICINE WEEK September 21 to 24 2004

ENTERTAINMENT LINE!

GREENBELT 2	GREENBELT 3
GREENBELT 2: MUSIC STYLES from Thursday to Saturday (7-10pm)	NEO CORPO ART EXHIBIT Sept. 18-30 (Greenbelt 3 Lobby)

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents PINOCCHIO
at REP'S GLOBE THEATER - August 7 to December 12, 2004
TRADE HALL FOR EXHIBITS, EVENTS AND MORE!
For inquiries and bookings please call 750-4982 to 84

Glenn Avon
Merchant of Venice
by William Shakespeare
Directed by Lino Brocka
September 16 to October 16
For inquiries, please call the REP Office at 887-0770 or visit us at C2-A Building C, Karmen Plaza, 2316 Pasong Tama Extension, Malib City

Subscribe to

AYALA CINEMAS' WEEKLY

MOVIE MAIL

The revolutionary way to keep you posted on what's happening with your favorite Ayala Cinemas. And it's all for FREE!

Simply e-mail the word "SUBSCRIBE" to ayalacinemamail@ayalaland.com.ph and you'll receive an e-mail from us with the latest updates each week.

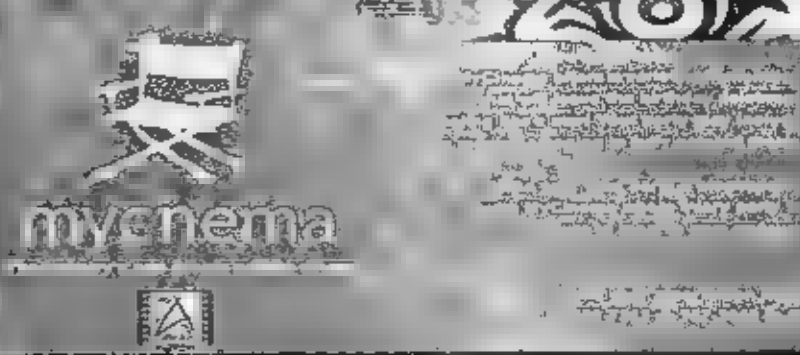


AYALA MAIL
Loveremall!

Celebrate Fun and Entertainment this Holiday Season!



Make your next Birthday party a real award winning one!



CUSTOMER SERVICE TEXT HOTLINE: 0917-6095900 • CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE: Glorietta 752-7272, from 10am to 8pm • Greenbelt 757-4853; from 11am to 12am • Antigua Town Center - 842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu (032) 231 5342 loc 324 • AYALA CINEMA LINKS: For screening times call 729-7777.
Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart).
Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.



A30

'Mayors should run film fest'

From page A31

movie actor and former producer, had represented the mayors in the film festival according to Atienza. Malonzo was co-overall chair of the executive committee and chair of the selection committee. He finished serving his last term as Caloocan mayor last June.

"Malonzo represented the mayors," said Atienza. "He was the one running the show. That was not a problem with us."

"But Fernando has a big problem with the mayors," he added. "He has this bad habit of running things by himself, of doing what he wants to do in Metro Manila without considering local programs and sensitivities."

"These problems should be solved first before we can talk about the film festival. He wants to do everything by himself. Unless he reforms, he would find it difficult to be the coordinator of the Metro Manila Film Festival and other projects in Metro Manila."

Atienza himself has been on top of the Manila Film Festival, held each June, since it was revived in 2002.

"Comparatively, we have gained more grounds in trying to promote the progress of the local film industry, which really needs, very badly, government support," he said.

Manila incentives

He noted that the Manila Film Festival had started to give incentives to the finalists P100,000 for every script chosen during the selection process, and P1 million for the producer of every film that becomes a finalist.

"In Manila, we continue to support the local film industry," he said. "Manila led in the effort to reduce amusement taxes. We did this two years ago. We continue to promote the movie industry because it is not only the most effective medium of entertainment, it can also be developed into one of the pillars of the economy if properly harnessed."

He noted that the Asian film market today are booming but these are dominated by filmmakers from India and Hong Kong.

"In the '50s and '60s, Filipino film makers monopolized the Asian film market," he said. "Now we don't even have the capacity to compete."

But he is not about to give up in supporting an industry which local producers and directors say is dying.

"The industry needs government support now more than ever," Atienza said. "Let's not help kill it."

Editor Louis C. Carino

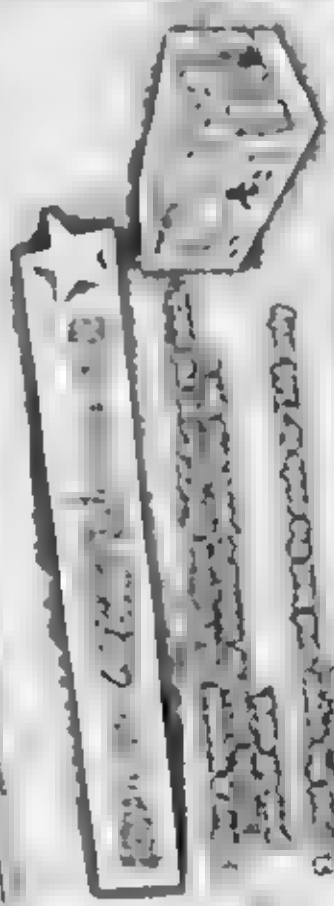
By Nini Valera

The full participation of the mayors would assure the success of the film fest, according to Anenza, who claimed he has not been apprised of what's happening in this year's Metro Manila Film Festival, which will be

For SCREENING SCHEDULES call 625-5556
or visit us www.robinsonandmoyseworld.com

GET A SHOT AT \$2 MILLION BY APRIL 3 TO 4 PM

**Buy the NBA Edition *Cobra* pads
 for a chance to win \$2 Million**



Cobra pads are available in two colors: black and white.

The NBA Edition *Cobra* pads are available in two colors: black and white.

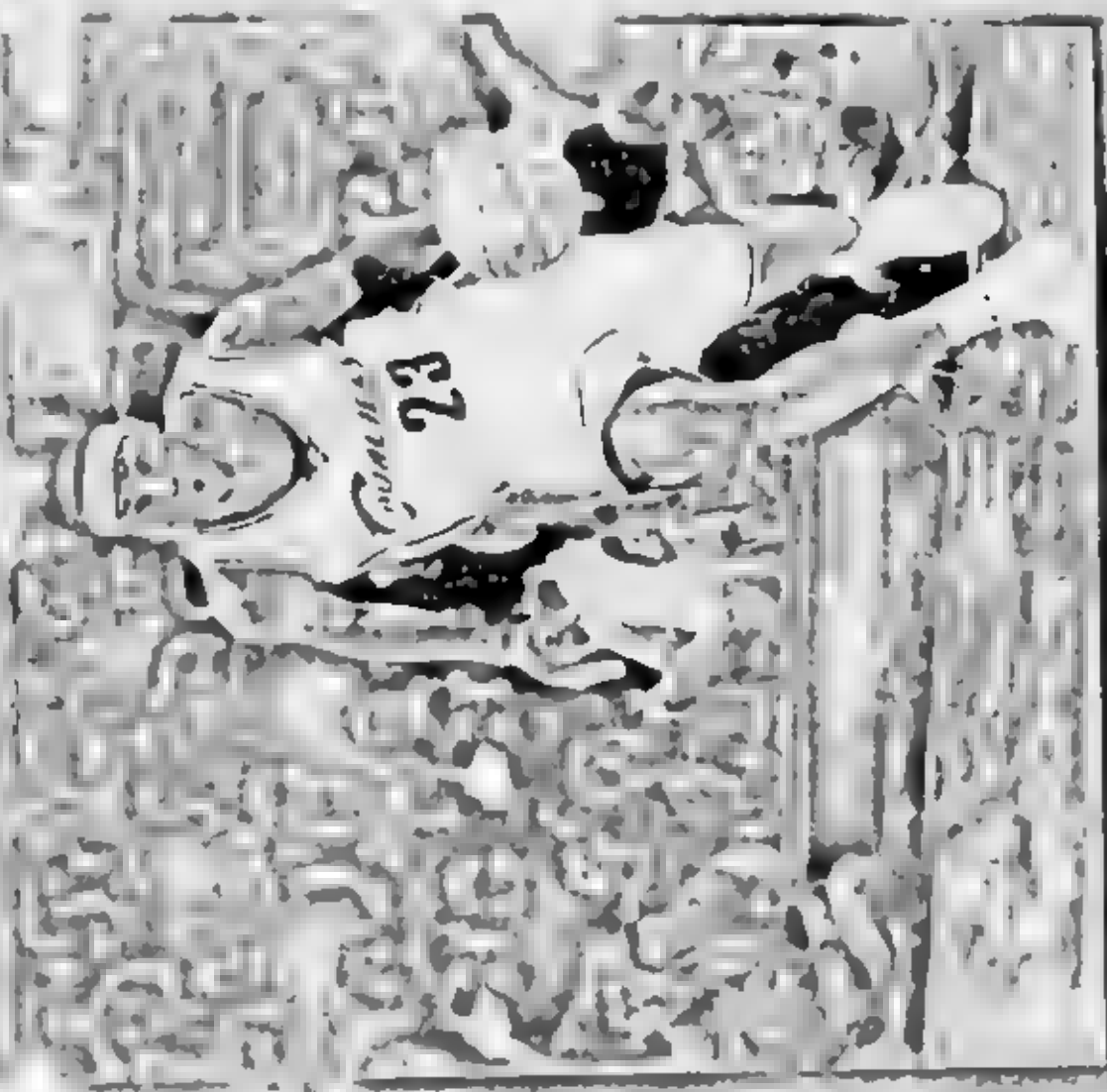
The NBA Edition *Cobra* pads are available in two colors: black and white.

The NBA Edition *Cobra* pads are available in two colors: black and white.



SPONSOR

The NBA Edition *Cobra* pads are available in two colors: black and white.



LEBRON JAMES

**Text NBA to 2346
 for a chance to win another
 \$2 Million**



ANYGLOBE
 THIS VE



Globe

making great things possible

BUSINESS

Text us your feedback: Inquirer biz name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: jr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.netEditor Paul O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

ACCENT-MICRO TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Dell OptiPlex 170L SMT

Relevant Technology
That's Easy to Manage
at Most Affordable Prices!

Service: 887 4705-01 • Sales: 836 3562/587 1895-00 • info@amti.com.ph

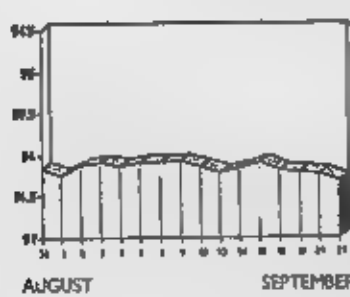
Dell Top Channel Partner since 1993
Dell Top Executive Sales Award 2003

DELL

8-month budget gap on target at P111.1B

INDICATORS CURRENCIES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE



P 50.325 = \$ 1

As of 5 p.m., Sept. 21, 2004

Y 109.95 = \$ 1

As of 5 p.m., Sept. 21, 2004

GOLD: \$404.30-404.80

per ounce Hong Kong, Sept. 21, 2004

STOCK MARKET

Shares close up 1.09%

SHARES prices closed up 1.09 percent yesterday, as buying interest in leading large caps helped offset profit taking in index heavyweight Philippine Long Distance Telephone (PLDT), dealers said.

They noted that after a brief consolidation the market appears poised for another sustained run-up.

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index closed up 18.47 points at the day's high of 1,720.68. It hit a low of 1,700.42.

Volume fell to 908.2 million shares but value rose to P880.2 million from Monday's 1.04 billion shares valued at P658.03 million.

The broader all-shares index closed down 1.34 points at 1,081.78. Losers edged gainers 32 to 29, while 46 stocks were unchanged.

"After a consolidation period, I think there's room for another rally," said Elena Ponceda of Unicapital Securities.

Investor sentiment remained generally upbeat on hopes for strong corporate earnings growth this year, she said.

But concerns over a possible credit rating downgrade for the country, as the government struggles to deal with its fiscal deficit problem, remains a drag on prices.

The national government announced before the market closed that its budget deficit for August reached P11.7 billion, widening the fiscal gap to P111.1 billion for the first eight months of the year.

By Michelle V. Remo

THE NATIONAL government's budget deficit declined by 2.17 percent in the first eight months of the year to P111.1 billion compared with the same period in 2003, as higher revenue collection offset increases in spending.

According to the Department of Finance, tight monitoring of expenditures and efforts to increase revenue collection, especially by the Bureau of Internal Revenue, helped the government achieve the relatively low deficit.

"The eight-month cumulative deficit figure makes the government well on track to meet its full-year budget-deficit target of P197.8 billion," Finance Undersecretary Eric Recto said yesterday.

Government data showed that revenue generated from January to August reached P462.4 billion, or higher than the P408.36 billion collected during the same pe-

riod last year. Expenditure, on the other hand, increased to P573.5 billion from P521.921 billion.

The 8-month deficit figure gives the government leeway to incur a budget gap of P86.7 billion for the remaining four months of 2004, or P21.68 billion for each month, to meet the full-year target of P197.8 billion. Recto said the government was in a very comfortable position, considering that with the full-year target of P197.8 billion, it should practically be limiting its budget gap to only P16.48 billion per month.

In August alone, the government collected P59.7 billion, or

higher than the P51.12 billion collected in the same month of 2003. The increase in revenue collection was largely contributed by the BIR, which accounts for more than 80 percent of government's revenue. The BIR collected P43.13 billion in August, slightly surpassing its P43.11-billion target.

The BIR, which is tasked to collect P477 billion this year to help the government ease its budget woes, earlier said it was confident of meeting its full-year target despite missing its collection goals in the earlier months of the year. The BIR said it had initiated various tax collection-enhancement programs, such as the tax auditing of each industry group, to further boost revenue performance.

The BIR is currently going after several members of the banking

industry for about P38 billion in back taxes on foreign currency loans and penalties from 1997 and prior years.

The BIR said it was also setting its sight on other industry groups, from which huge tax leakages are suspected. It is also planning to come up with a tax manual for every industry to set standard tax payment and auditing rules for enhanced revenue collection.

The government, faced with a serious fiscal problem, is hard-pressed to meet its budget deficit target for the year to prove to the international community that it is capable of averting a looming fiscal crisis.

The government is hoping to gradually trim the budget deficit until it reaches zero by 2009 or 2010, or before the end of President Macapagal-Arroyo's term.

PNOC unit to tap Malampaya oil reserves

By Abigail L. Ho

PHILIPPINE National Oil Co.-Exploration Corp. (PNOC-EC) is in talks with a local group on a possible joint venture to develop the oil reserves at the Malampaya Deep Water Gas-to-Power project in northwest Palawan.

This followed the decision of the foreign members of the Malampaya consortium—Shell Philippines Exploration BV (Spex) and Chevron Texaco Philippines Inc.—earlier in the year not to undertake the oil exploration component of the project due to insufficient volumes.

While already finished with its own reevaluation of the Malampaya oil reserves, the recently resigned PNOC-EC president Rufino Bomasang said the state firm needed a "second opinion" so as to determine the potential oil reserves in the area as well as the feasibility of extracting and developing these.

The second study, this time to be done by the firm that PNOC-EC is in talks with, should last six to eight months, he said.

By the end of the month, he said an agreement to undertake the study on the Malampaya oil reserves should be forged with the local group, he added.

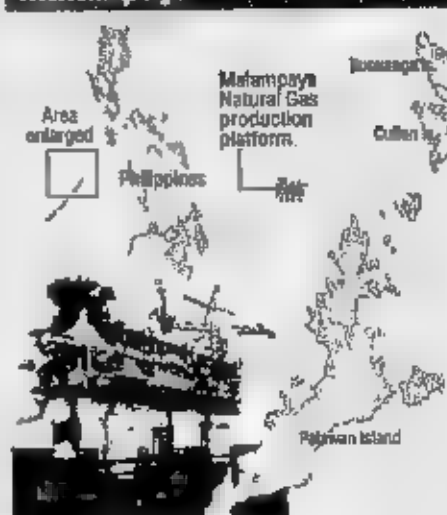
He declined to name which group the state firm was negotiating with, saying only that the local private sector investor had a foreign component.

"We're talking to a prospective partner from the private sector because we have to spend some money (on the study)," he said. "We've finished our study. We're just getting a second opinion."

Spex and Chevron Texaco, both multinationals having numerous other exploration contracts in other parts of the world, deemed the Malampaya reserves of between 25 mil-

PNOC/BJ

Malampaya



INQUIRER/ACCENT-MICRO

40

Years of progressive
colour business



CDI Sakata Inx Corp.

CDI Sakata Inx Corporation is a joint venture company with Sakata Inx Corporation, a leading Japanese company and fifth largest printing ink manufacturer in the world.

CDI, then known as Chemical Dispersions, Inc. was incorporated on September 22, 1964. Since that time, it has been transformed into one of the prime manufacturers of metal coatings, glass enamels, and printing inks. The construction of its manufacturing facility in Alabang Hills in Muntinlupa City, and continuous upgrading of production and laboratory testing equipment in succeeding years, provided CDI with the necessary capability to cope with the needs of its growing clientele.

From 1967 to 1992, CDI's license agreements with Coates Brothers in the United Kingdom created a significant impetus in the development of excellent quality products. This provided CDI with unparalleled image that attracted a large share of the packaging industry. Key personnel, trained in Europe, USA, Singapore, Japan and other countries, boosted its ability for technical innovation and improved customer servicing.

In 1992, CDI became CDI Sakata Inx Corporation when Sakata Inx Corporation became its partner. This formal unification ushered in a progressive stream of technical developments and a worldwide network that further strengthened the firm's position in local and export markets. In line with its thrust for excellence, CDI Sakata Inx Corporation was granted ISO 9002 certification in 1996 and has since, gained a prestigious reputation as a reliable quality producer.

As it celebrates its 40th year, CDI Sakata Inx Corporation commits itself to a new era marked by continuous improvements and a highly progressive quality colour business.

Board of Directors
Benjamin De Leon
Chairman of the Board

Directors
Shuji Tsuji
Kazuo Sakuma
Bernardino C. Paco
Aida M. Mondiguing

Corporate Secretary
Manuel R. Singason

Officers
Bernardino C. Paco
President & Chief Operating Officer
Aida M. Mondiguing
Executive Vice President & General Manager
Erlito R. Dimaano
Vice President & Head, Metal Coatings Division
Jimmy R. Victoria
Vice President & Head, Printing Inks Division
Lydia T. Abadilla
Vice President for HRD & Corporate Planning



Seated from left to right: J.R. Victoria, B.C. Paco, R.S. Villamora
Standing: A.M. Mondiguing, E.R. Dimaano, L.T. Abadilla

Tinprint Inks and Metal Coatings



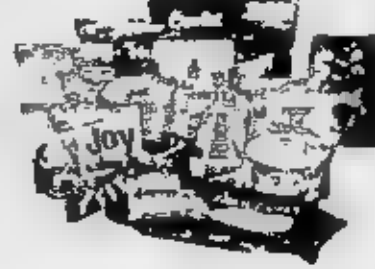
Don Jasso Blvd.,
Alabang Hills Village,
Alabang Muntinlupa City
1700 Philippines
Tel.: (832) 8422070 to 72
842-3000 to 61
Fax: (832) 808-9717
808-4867/842-3058

Glass Enamels

Water Based Inks

Rotogravure and Flexographic Inks

Offset Inks



Acknowledgments:

SAKATA INX CORP. INX INTERNATIONAL INK CO. P.T. SAKATA INX (INDONESIA) FERRO COULEURS FRANCE CHEMDIS MANUFACTURING CORP.

Baykolor Corp., Chemical Merchants Corp., Chemwealth, Inc., China Banking Corporation, Color Dispersions, Inc., Deinippon Ink Chemicals, Flexochem Traders Enterprises, Industrial Emulsions, Inc., J Van Resources, Inc., JJ Degussa Chemicals (P) Inc., Lion Chemical Corp., Mohe Chemicals Phils., Inc., Metro Industries, Inc., Novo Pacific Corp., Oriental Air and Sea Brokerage Services, Inc., Philippine Prosperity Chemicals Inc., R.I. Chemical Corp., SDT Manufacturing Co., Titanium Chemicals, Toyo Inks (Phil.) Co., Inc., Traders Vision Int'l.

Alchem International Resources Inc., Asian Chemical Corp., Cougar Resources Corp., EAC Chemicals (Phil.) Inc., Himmil Industries, Inc., Morgan's Home Assurance Pacific Roans, Inc., Printmark, Inc., Quality Container Corp., Quick Customs Brokerage Corp., TNC Chemicals, Tradetion Corp., United Container Corp., WYE Marketing

ATM networks in merger talks

By Doris C. Dumlaog

AUTOMATED teller machine operators Megalink and ExpressNet have entered into "serious" merger talks to make their operations more efficient.

"It's true that there are already serious talks. The discussions have gone far, but as to specific plans and timetable, nothing has been firmed up," a banker privy to the discussions told the INQUIRER.

In a separate interview, Land Bank of the Philippines executive vice president Gilda Pico told reporters the two networks had begun merger talks but a lot of issues would have to be resolved.

Of the three ATM networks in the country, Pico said Megalink and ExpressNet were the first ones to hatch merger possibilities because they were already interconnected.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura earlier said he would like the country's three ATM networks, including Bancnet, to merge before he steps down from office in July next year.

A Megalink official agreed that a merger among the ATM networks would benefit every one.

"It is in the interest of everyone for the ATM networks to merge because of the small market," the official said.

However, the officials said several issues would have to be ironed out, including which would be the surviving entity, which platform to use and operational standards to adopt.

The official said that ExpressNet was bigger than Megalink in terms of network, but it was not the only criteria in determining which operator should be the surviving entity.

Expressnet operates a total of 1,680 machines or more than a third of ATMs in the country. Megalink, on the other hand, has the largest number of cardholders, estimated at 6.7 million as against ExpressNet's 3.5 million.

Megalink also has more member-banks (21) as against ExpressNet's four: the Bank of the Philippine Islands group, LandBank, HS-BC and Banco de Oro Universal Bank.

But the official said a three-way merger was still a remote possibility as Megalink and Bancnet were still "not comfortable with their present interconnection."

Megalink is the only network with interconnection with the two other ATM operators.

Yuchengco firm to start capital restructuring

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission has allowed Yuchengco of Investments to reduce its capital stock in order to wipe out last year's capital deficit.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE), HI said the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) had approved its planned capital restructuring, which would lower its authorized capital stock to P2.875 billion from P3.5 billion. HI's par value would also be reduced to P1.50 from P2 a share.

In view of the approval of the company's capital restructuring, trading of HI shares, which was suspended last Sept. 16, will resume on Thursday, Sept. 23. It was last traded on Sept. 7 at 65 centavos.

HI earlier filed an application with the SEC for the approval of its capital restructuring to wipe out a capital deficit of P167.23 million last year.

The company has interests in car dealership, construction and infrastructure, consumer finance and information technology, through iPeople, Mapua Institute of Technology, Mapua Information Technology Center and People eServe Corp.

Chic Uniforms, Inc.

WE DO ALL KINDS OF UNIFORMS FOR

OFFICES • SCHOOLS • FACTORIES • HOSPITALS

SECURITY GUARDS • NURSES • HOUSEKEEPERS

Unit 27-Q Burgundy Corporate Tower 252 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

8437633 • 8437539 • 8437637

This announcement appears as a matter of record only


STANDARD INSURANCE CO., INC.
The Insurance Standard

(The Cooperative Partner of Zurich Financial Services, Switzerland)

STATEMENT

This is in response to an article entitled "Not standard practice" dated September 1, 2004 in a minor broadsheet by a business writer who has maliciously misinformed the public by misinterpreting the audited financial statements of Standard Insurance Co., Inc.

This is with regards to the qualification as stated by its auditors, SGV & Co., on its recognition of the deferred reinsurance premiums in 2003 and 2002 under its existing reinsurance contract with a subsidiary which is not in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the Philippines (also known as GAAP).

The misinformation and misinterpretation by the said writer declares the company as troubled financially and compares its accounting to those of Enron, WorldCom and Parmalat.

The consolidated financial statements of Standard Insurance as of December 31, 2003 and 2002 as reported by its independent auditors, SGV & Co., are in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the Philippines, except for the recognition of deferred reinsurance premiums under the treaty reinsurance contract for its motor car insurance with a wholly-owned foreign subsidiary.

The qualification, contrary to what is stated in the article, does not have any effect on and does not reduce the company's net income and net worth from a legal standpoint. Otherwise, the auditors would have stated such effect or reduction.

Standard Insurance has been transparent in its disclosure and recognizes such qualification under the GAAP. It has been consistently publishing its audited financials for the benefit of the public.

In the industry, the Consolidated Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2003 of Standard Insurance Co., Inc. will show

(In P'000)

THE HIGHEST

Combined*	
Premiums Earned	1,384,195
Net Underwriting Income	525,508
Income from Operations	182,670
Paid-up Capital	600,000

ONE OF THE HIGHEST

Net Premium Income, combined*	1,814,877
Net Income	200,374
Net Worth	1,140,989

*combined with eStandard Insurance Corporation (formerly Zurich General Insurance Philippines, Inc.), a wholly-owned subsidiary

The malicious misinformation and misinterpretation of the article, which will be legally dealt with by Standard Insurance, follows the manner by which certain competition has maligned the financials and reinsurance facilities of Standard Insurance together with the misrepresentation as the cooperative partner of Zurich Financial Services. This is outright unethical and unprofessional.

We welcome fair competition on the basis of merits and we encourage other companies to also publish their financials and reinsurance facilities for the benefit of the insuring public.

Standard Insurance is committed to continuously improve the quality of service to the insuring public by raising the standards of competency and professionalism, and through integrity.

STANDARD INSURANCE CO., INC., The Insurance Standard has the highest Paid-up Capital in the industry at P1,140,989,000. Backed-up by Reinsurers highly rated by Standard & Poor's. Accredited with most Banks & Financial Institutions, Quality Management Systems (ISO 9000:2001) Certified. Widest branch network, located in key cities of the country. The leader in Motorcar Insurance and a Major Player in Non-Motor Insurance. The only insurance company with its own Technical Department which provides Technical Assistance all over the country.

Head Office: 11th Floor - (02) 480-7777. Carpooling Marketing Group - (02) 778-0778. Metro Manila Branches: Calabarzon - (02) 450-8856. Head Office Branch - (02) 523-1472. Iloilo - (02) 911-1011. Cebu - (02) 724-8024. Taguig - (02) 789-0793. West Branch - (02) 415-7772.

Metro Manila - (02) 254-4557. Metro Manila - (02) 221-1929.

Website: www.standard-insurance.com Email: enquiry@standard-insurance.com

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE					
(As of September 21, 2004)					
STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	17.25	17.25	17	17.25	24,400
Bank of the Phil. Islands	44.5	46	44.5	45	1,174,400
Bank of the Philippine Islands	535	535	535	535	1,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	41.5	41.5	41.5	41.5	26,600
Export and Imp. Bank Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	70,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	22.5	22.5	22.5	22.5	1,786,900
Philippine National Bank	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	4,500
Security Bank Corp.	21	21	20.75	21	63,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	25	25	25	25	45,700
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Manulife Financial Corp.	2420	2420	2420	2420	10
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	109,000
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	118	118	118	118	100
Son Life Financial Inc.	1580	1580	1580	1580	4,580
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATIONS					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	20.5	20.75	20.5	20.75	5,100
Digital Telecom Pkts. Inc.	0.87	0.87	0.86	0.86	1,820,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	1025	1050	1025	1050	45,600
Mobile Inc.	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82	20,000
Isang Ingo and Tech Inc.	0.0525	0.0525	0.0525	0.0525	3,400,000
Manila Electric Co. B	2.42	2.42	2.42	2.42	4,000
Phil. Long Dis. Tel. Co.	1345	1345	1335	1330	2,902,000
Plaza Corp.	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	149,500
Plaza Corp.	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.012	260,000
Plaza Corp.	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.012	18,000,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	15.2	15.2	15.25	15.25	5,800
Manila Electric Co. B	23.25	23.25	23	23.25	46,800
Perron Corp.	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	10,057,000
Sison Power Corp.	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	7,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	173,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.18	1.48	1.44	1.44	393,000
Abolito Trans. Sys. Corp.	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	87,000
WTC Container Term. Inc.	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	284,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	500,000
Union Cement Corp.	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	534,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Algebra Milk Corp.	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	3,000
Jonabee Foods Corp.	28	28	28	28	10,600
RFM Corp.	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73	110,000
Shin Food Inc.	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73	20,000
San Miguel Corp. A	57.5	58	57	58	83,800
San Miguel Corp. B	70	70.5	69.5	70.5	171,500
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con. Res. & Hdg. A	0.005	0.005	0.0048	0.005	52,000,000
Abacus Con. Res. & Hdg. B	0.005	0.005	0.0048	0.005	45,000,000
Ayala Corp.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	4,415,000
Abolito County Ventures	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.4	46,933,000
Arc Net Holdings Inc.	0.031	0.031	0.03	0.03	3,000,000
A. Sennar Corp.	1.4	1.4	1.38	1.38	120,000
Alcon Gold Res. Corp.	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	298,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	13.25	13.25	13	13.25	283,300
Geopacific Cons. Indus. Inc.	0.57	0.58	0.57	0.57	3,240,000
Bentley Holdings Corp.	0.13	0.13	0.125	0.125	210,000
Basco Consolidated Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	2,240,000
Southwest Asian Cement	0.145	0.145	0.145	0.145	2,240,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	2.18	2.24	2.14	2.22	2,227,000
Ever-Green Resources	0.035	0.037	0.035	0.037	15,900,000
Fininvest Dev. Corp.	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	100,000
Fin-Husano Holdings Corp.	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	5,000
First Phil. Hldgs. Corp.	26.5	27	26.5	26.5	16,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.0725	0.0725	0.0725	0.0725	10,000,000
Ionity Inc.	2.18	2.22	2.14	2.18	3,342,000
J.S. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	100,000
Macro Asia Corp.	1.6	1.64	1.6	1.64	503,000
Macro Asia Corp.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	4,456,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.51	0.53	0.5	0.52	47,700,000
Primo Dev. Phils. Inc.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	1,700,000
Primo Dev. Holdings Inc.	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	20,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	60,000
Ultramar Holdings Inc.	0.165	0.165	0.165	0.165	1,250,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	690,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Active Alliance Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	20,000
Euro-Med. Lab. Phil. Inc.	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	5,000
Micron Semiconductors Corp.	1.78	1.82	1.74	1.82	555,000
Metrolab Vercil Corp.	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	20,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Bella Corp.	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.68	2,450,000
Lecture & Resorts Corp.	0.6	0.63	0.6	0.63	590,000
Manila Jockey Club	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.25	80,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	70,000
Philippine Racing Club	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	41,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Phil)	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	825,300
PLDT 10% Pref. Series V	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	3,000
PLDT 0% Pref. Series W	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	2,600
PLDT 0% Pref. Series Z	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,900
PLDT 10% Pref. Series Aa	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	4,300
PLDT 10% Pref. Series Bb	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,600
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.3	5,205,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	20,000
E & P Homes Inc.	0.42	0.45	0.42	0.45	21,228,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	2,500,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	6,080,000
Genius Land Inc.	1.02	1.02	1	1	1,107,500
Golden Land Inc.	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	300,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.215	0.215	0.215	0.215	410,000
SM Development Corp.	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	19,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.1	13,052,000
MINE					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	13,000,000
Altas Corp. Min. & Dev.	3	3	3	3	80,000
Leopoldo Cons. Mng. Co. A	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	420,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.017	0.018	0.017	0.018	143,300,000
Omico Corp.	0.0065	0.0065	0.006	0.006	33,000,000
Phil. Mines & Dev. Corp.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	5,000,000
Phil. Mining Corp. A	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	1,600,000
Plaza Mining Corp. B	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	1,110,000
OIL					
Interport Res.	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	40,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	10,000,000
Pacific	0.011	0.012	0.011	0.012	2,100,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	39,000

DISCLOSURES

SEMIARRA Mining Corp. will hold a special meeting of stockholders on Oct. 8 at 10:00 a.m. on the third floor of Dacon Building, 2281 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City.

BALABAC Resources & Holdings Co. Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Nov. 9 at the Century Park Hotel, Vito Cruz, Manila at 4 p.m.

BAGUIO Gold Holdings Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Nov. 9 at the Century Park Hotel, Vito Cruz, Manila at 2:30 p.m.

METRO Pacific Corp. (MPC) announced the appointment of Jose Ma. Lim as Cit

PEOPLE at WORK

Tell us your feedback: Inquirer.paw.name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor Raul O. Marcelo

Subsection Editor Regina Galang Reyes

How do you resolve conflict at work?

DEAR WW: I battle constantly with someone in my department. I'm growing weary of this. What can I do to reduce the tension?

Ready for Truce

It's the nightmare of every convenience store clerk: the rifle pointed at your chest. When a clerk in Little Rock, Arkansas faced a rifle, though, he skirted danger by asking a simple question: "Why would anyone want to go to jail over a measly \$30?" To his surprise, the would-be robber turned and left.

How many times have you locked horns with someone at work over something equally measly? And how many times has that conflict escalated until you and your opponent could barely be in the same room? Solving these conflicts can be challenging. But the first step is to do the same thing that fast-thinking clerk did: ask questions. In fact, your initial goal should not be to solve the conflict. It should be to start a dialogue. Because only by talking will you eventually reach agreement.

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner



Below are five common types of disagreements and questions to help you break the ice. For more information, see Mel Silberman's book, "People Smart" (Berrett-Koehler, 2000).

Disagreements over facts. You think the client said no for one reason; your opponent's sure it was for another, and you're each bent on bloodying the other before you'll give in and make the next patch her way. Well, hang up the boxing gloves and ask, "Can we come up with something jointly that's even better than our previous attempts?" Two heads are generally better than one.

Disagreements over process. You're hot to purchase TV ads; your opponent's sold on radio. Before you come to blows,

ask, "Hey, don't we both agree on the goal—publicity for our campaign?" By refocusing on the goal, you may be better able to listen to each other's arguments, or may find a third solution that's mutually agreeable.

Disagreements over goals. You think the goal this quarter should be cost-cutting; your opponent favors upping revenue. As hostilities mount you can't imagine how such a numbskull could work for your company. Before thrashing him try asking, "How did you establish that goal?" If you examine both your assumptions, you're apt to find areas of agreement.

Personality conflicts. Personality breakdowns are really tough. Sometimes the best thing is to bring in a neutral third party. Ask, "Are there people we both respect, who don't have the 'baggage' we do, who will be able to help us past this disagreement?"

Disagreements over values. These are toughest of all. Values are nuclear issues for people and we tend to rise—or sink—to unprecedented levels of rigidity when negotiating them. After acknowl-



ILLUSTRATION BY DOMENICO SUGCAT

edging that you're approaching the problem with different sets of beliefs, try asking, "Do you see any areas where we do agree?" Focusing on common ground may help you find a mutually acceptable solution.

These strategies won't solve your conflicts, but they will help you fight fairly so that no one takes a bullet in the line of work.

Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com/ABCnews.com

online ballot: Which song title best describes your strategy for dealing with conflict at work?

—"Give Peace a Chance," 30.9 percent

—"I Stay Away," 32.5 percent

—"Hit Me With Your Best Shot," 36.4 percent

(Mr. Rosner is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)

Law firm CEO takes time to train young lawyers

By Cecile G. Garcia
Contributor

FIFTY-THREE-YEAR-OLD Eusebio V. Tan divides his time between running a law firm and practicing law. Tan is managing partner or CEO of Angara, Abello, Concepcion, Regala and Cruz Law Offices (Accra) and is an expert in corporate law.

Though more than half of his time is taken up by his practice, managing the distinguished law firm is no less demanding, says Tan, who became managing partner in January 2003, after serving as co-managing partner for a year and before that, partner in charge of finance. "The managing partner is elected by the partnership," he explains. "His job is to attend to the day-to-day management of the firm and to make sure that things run smoothly and efficiently." In law firms abroad, according to Tan, the managing partner is usually relieved of lawyer duty to allow him to devote his time to his job as CEO. "It's a challenge for me to see to it that we meet the firm's targets and objectives," he contends.

Tan joined Accra in 1976, following his admission to the bar the same year. He became a partner after 10 years, working his way up from assistant (now referred to as associate), senior assistant (senior associate) and junior partner. In those days, he recounts, assistants, still wet behind the ears, had to go through the entire spectrum, that is, every aspect of the practice of law. "I was doing corporate and special projects, tax, labor, immigration, litigation and all the rest." This is no longer done, Tan points out. "We start off new associates by letting them focus on their specialty right away."

Interesting course

He never dreamed of becoming a lawyer, reveals Tan. A graduate of AB Economics, De La Salle University, summa cum laude, he was set to go to Harvard for his MBA when he found out that his application was late and he had to wait another year. To keep busy in the meantime, he decided to take up law at the Ateneo. Says Tan, "Law is based on reason and logic and serves to establish order in society. I found it very interesting. So I stayed." He graduated with honors and later on, took a year's leave from Accra in order to pursue his MA at Columbia University in New York City.

Because he deals in corporate law, Tan seldom goes to court. His areas of specialization include investments, business law, mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, franchises and franchising, construction law, leases and leasing, banks and banking, and privatization. Tan handles a lot of international business transactions and was head of the legal team that facilitated obtaining full banking licenses for major foreign banks

CAREER TALES



operating in the country. Among his numerous projects, one he considers quite significant was the privatization of Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS). "I played a very active role in it," he says. Tan acts as corporate secretary or sits in the board of several large corporations.

Competencies

"Being a good lawyer requires patience, hard work, dedication, commitment and persistence," pronounces Tan. Having a logical and analytical mind, people skills and experience are invaluable assets as well. "Every lawyer should be able to look at a problem, spot the main issues and address them by finding solutions." Being a lawyer entails discipline, he adds. "A lawyer should also learn how to be precise and accurate." Tan says he developed some of these skills through almost 30 years of legal practice.

Having had the founding partners of Accra, in particular Teddy Regala, Joe Concepcion and Manny Abello, as his mentors, was Tan's good fortune. "Indeed, I was very lucky to have been trained by them," he concedes. "I try to do the same for our young lawyers. I mentor them by showing them how to improve their work."

Training new lawyers

As managing partner, a democratic one, Tan tries to establish rapport with the firm's young lawyers, making them feel free to seek his advice anytime (Accra, incidentally, has more than a hundred lawyers). Generally, he listens and is always willing to discuss and exchange ideas. When problems arise, as managing partner, he consults either the executive committee or the entire partnership.

Helping people solve their legal problems is the best part of being a lawyer, affirms Tan. He says, "There is satisfaction in being able to provide appropriate counsel and advice, in winning cases for clients, or in non-litigation, in helping them structure a good deal. You feel you've succeeded every time clients are satisfied and happy with the service you render."

The practice of law is time-consuming. This is why Tan feels his biggest contribution to Accra is his time. "Partners work 10 to 12 hours a day, even longer. If we have to, we stay in the office overnight, working." They have a team system at Accra. Tan divides, with at least three



TAN

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

lawyers per team

Tan believes his involvement in legal organizations, both here and abroad, is in itself an achievement. As a charter member of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA), he has been invited a number of times to speak on topics related to corporate law during the group's annual conference. He also acts as vice chairperson of IPBA's Cross Border Investment Committee. "The IPBA focuses on the Asia Pacific region. Teddy Regala was president in 1996. I am very much involved in it," says Tan. A member of the Integrated Bar Association of the Philippines (IBP) as well, he served as president of its Makati City Chapter in 1995 and was given the IBP Leadership Award.

Married for 15 years to the former Madeleine Sophie Badoy, Tan and his wife are the parents of two girls and two boys. The lawyer tries to squeeze in a game of golf once a week.

Where does he see himself 10 years from today? Would he follow in the footsteps of several of the 31-year-old firm's legal luminaries? Replies Tan, "I see myself getting involved in new fields, expanding my expertise and continuing to develop my skills as a lawyer."

What is his advice to aspiring young lawyers? "Try to get a lot of exposure and learn as fast as you can by working with more experienced lawyers. Be hard working and dedicated and strive to do your best. Learn proper English, both written and oral. Get yourself recognized for your expertise and skill. Always remember that we can be equal to or even better than our Wall Street counterparts."

Financial planning is everyone's responsibility

By Rex Ma. A. Mendoza
EVP and Chief Marketing Officer,
Philamlife

FINANCIAL planning as a buzzword in wealth management has gained a terrific level of popularity in recent times. Professionals in the field of financial services have given advice to many affluent individuals and families and have opened doors to great opportunities for growth, prosperity, and financial independence. While many of these advisors have largely focused on the rich, the principles of financial planning apply to everyone.

Financial planning is defined as the process of meeting life's goals through the proper management of one's finances. This definition has many implications. Since different people have different goals, financial planning has to be a very personalized process. There is also no indication as to what level of financial status one has to be in for planning to be a worthwhile exercise. Anybody who sets his or her mind to achieve financial success needs a plan. Contrary to what is commonly assumed, financial planning can be as simple and as complicated as one desires it to be. Lastly, financial planning is characterized as a continuous process. It must consider changes in the aspirations and economic position of the individual or the family concerned.

No matter what your current financial situation is, and whatever your life's goals are, you need a plan. This plan will be your blueprint for the achievement of your financial goals. Like any other plan, it sets forth a strategy with which you set your direction to guide you in the future decisions you will make.

Setting goals

The first step is to know what you want. Your goals have to be laid out. Your current lifestyle, your children's education, a comfortable retirement, a completely furnished house, a wonderful vacation, involvement in charitable causes, and a second honeymoon can all be important to you. But how do you rank these? What are your priorities? Setting your objectives right is the most crucial first step in creating your plan.

Second, you have to study your financial position. How much income do you receive and what proportion of this do you spend? How much have you saved? In what instruments are these invested? Do you have loans? It will be worthwhile knowing how you have set up your current situation and check if it matches the prioritized goals you have established. The answer to this question is critical: Are you on track with what you want to achieve? If your answer is yes, or if you are quite close, then you will not require any radical changes. But if the answer is no, or if you are "way off," then you will have to either reposition your investments, check on your inflows and outflows, thereby effecting a change in your financial position to direct your situation towards your goals. Another alternative is to alter your objectives altogether because they may be too unrealistic.

Investment options

When you have completely analyzed "where you are" and "where you want to go," you can now evaluate your investment options. This particular step will define the vehicles that you will choose to reach your desired investment targets. In more technical terms, this is commonly referred to as the creation of a

"portfolio."

At this stage, you have to differentiate instruments as to their capability to earn (yield), the probability of losses (risk), the time horizon (maturity), and the liquidity (liquidity), and the taxes that you may be exposed to. These factors are very important in the selection process because there is no such thing as an ideal investment for everyone at all times. Much will have to depend on your financial situation, risk appetite, and the time frame you have in mind.

Another reason why this evaluation is important is the inverse relationships among these factors. For example, a high yield may naturally mean that you will be taking greater risks. It may also mean that you are committing yourself to a longer time horizon. It is ironic that many people focus on earnings alone without thinking of what they are sacrificing in return for that higher yield. On the other hand, too much focus on safety and liquidity may limit what you will earn. This can result to the underperformance of your "portfolio" thereby making it difficult for you to meet your targets.

You also have to keep in mind that you have many choices. Savings deposits, life insurance, mutual funds, pre-need contracts, money market placements and many other instruments are there to build up any investment basket. In the end, marching and balance is the key to portfolio creation.

Commitment

The commitment to implement an established financial plan will help you avoid mistakes in managing your money. It will strike an equilibrium between what you enjoy today and what you intend to have in the future. Trade offs between current expenses and savings will be clearer. But do not make the mistake of overdoing it. Financial planning does not mean forgoing everything that provides you pleasure. A sound financial plan must be able to afford you satisfaction within the entire process. If you are within that stage where you can afford it, a dress watch can give you internal gratification that is also important to keep you pushing and succeeding. However, this luxury can be a hindrance to a more important priority like security. If you still do not have enough. Again, the key consideration will be your own personal situation. What is good for you might not be good for another person.

After a period of time, you will start experiencing changes, which will require you to revisit your plan. A career move or an added child might be enough for you to refine your goals, and consequently, your financial strategy. For this reason, a review process may be inevitable every three years. For some, this review can even be done annually. Such a study will result in a new plan, and a new cycle will begin.

Financial planning is not just for the rich, it is a responsibility for everybody. It may be one of the tangible reasons why some are well off while many others are in a state of financial trouble. Planning not only helps you make smarter decisions, it also insulates you from market turbulence. Peace of mind is borne out of the stability of your financial position. It is a clear grasp of knowing that you are on track in terms of achieving your dreams. (For any comments, the author can be reached at Rex A. Mendoza@alg.com or reach him at his seminar on Personal Wealth Management organized by Philamlife on Sept. 24 from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Call 526-9337 for details.)

What to do with unproductive coworker

By Tita Datu Puangco

FOR SEVERAL months now, I cannot help but be annoyed by our lone sales personnel. Our company has been struggling and yet, he can still very well afford to be lax and unproductive. Surprisingly, in spite of his demeanor and non-performance, he seems to continue to enjoy the trust and confidence of our kind-hearted boss. I have been planning on spilling the beans on him but honestly I am not quite sure if it is the right thing to do.

Please help me decide. I am quite anxious that if I would ignore the situation, our company may just close down due to lack of revenue (which is not far-fetched since our boss has other and more profitable business ventures). If it is the right thing to do, I would also need advice on how to properly approach my boss on this matter.

Thanks a lot.

Uncertain to Act

When you are dedicated to your work and are truly concerned for the welfare of the company, it is indeed very irritating to see others not giving the same amount of effort. This is the cause of many heartaches in companies, not to mention in our government. What can you do?

Area of control

First, look at your area of control. Are you meeting your key result areas? These are the specific deliverables being asked of you. Are you meeting your targets and deadlines? Are you doing truly all that you can to help the company? Is your time well spent? I find that when I am fully concentrated on my tasks at hand and I commit entirely to achieving them, I find myself with no more time to look at other people and how their tasks are going. When I am in this "autistic" mode, as my children would call it, it is as if time expands and I am able to do more in a shorter span of time than I would have thought possible.

It is important to take this first step of focusing on those things that you can control. Because, frankly, your officemate is out of your area of control. He is in what we call your area of influence. You may be able to influence his behavior to a certain extent. However, you cannot make him change what he does or how he does his work.

At this point, when you are sure that you are

Advice

FOR THE
ANXIOUS PERSON
AT WORK



doing everything that you can in your area of control, try to understand what your officemate is doing in the context of your business. What role does he fulfill? How does he perform in his key result areas? What are his critical activities?

In today's modern workplace, we are offered quite a number of tools that empower us to do our work well. These tools, however, when improperly used also become sources of delay and distraction. For example, e-mail allows us to communicate and document "conversations" fast. We are in touch with people from across the globe with just one click. We can e-mail updated information to clients in no more time than it takes our fingers to type out a letter. Circulating also in our e-mail boxes are inspirational notes, fun quizzes, chain letters, e-group messages. From their workstations, people can look busy and be having a conversation with their friends over Yahoo Messenger.

Doing the right thing

If you truly see that your officemate's productivity is poor, you may try to influence him by not joining him in delaying or procrastinating activities, for example, on frequent smoking breaks or extended lunches. We Filipinos respond well to community-building activities. There are a lot of things we would not do if there were nobody to do it with us. The extended break loses its flavor without the company of friends and great conversation to lunch with.

In this way, you are "witnessing" to what should be the right behavior and creating an environment for your officemate to do the same without being preachy. People typically reject a suggestion when they feel their actions are being judged by an audience instead of being "invited" to be or do something.

Giving feedback

If, at this point, you still observe your officemate is not performing well, you might want to give him direct feedback. Here's how you do it:

1. Be specific and concrete. Talk about a specific instance. Do not try to compress what you perceive as all of the person's faults in one session. Just bring his attention to the issue at hand.

2. Be descriptive of behavior. As an example, cite what you saw and heard in his behavior and how it made you feel. Instead of telling him directly that he is wrong, focus on how his work affects yours and how he can influence your work positively.

3. Be free of opinion and interpretation. Do not bring other people's opinions or interpretations about events into the conversation. Discuss only those events that include and affect you.

4. Offer practical recommendations for improvement. When you give these recommendations, it would be best if you detach yourself from it. Though your objective in giving feedback is to change the behavior of people, don't feel bad or take it personally when they don't. As I've said at the beginning, your officemate is not within your area of control.

Remember that feedback is most effective when it is given with care and attention, invited by the recipient, expressed directly and fully, uncluttered by evaluative judgments, well-timed, easily acted upon, checked and clarified.

No guarantees

I understand the impulse to go directly to your boss and tell him about your officemate's unproductive behavior. I sense that you are feeling it is quite unfair that this officemate, who, as you observe, is not delivering on his KRAs, still has the faith and trust of your kind boss. My advice is to try the steps I have outlined above first. There are no guarantees that your officemate will change, but at the very least, these steps will open you up to each other as congenial coworkers.

These suggestions are valid only for person-to-person work relationships and creating an environment of openness and continuous learning in an office setting. Of course, if you see your coworker doing something illegal or is prohibited under the company's manual, you should go directly to your boss and talk about what you saw.

I hope these suggestions help you work better with your coworker. Thank you for sending your question. Please tell us how it went. God bless.
(Ms Puangco is CEO and chair of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. Send feedback through e-mail to advice@ancillaedc.com.ph or fax to 892-2902.)



BDO Long Term Commercial Paper Coupon Interest Rates

September 20, 2004 to December 20, 2004

Philippine Peso LTCP Series A

7.718%

Quarterly coupon payment on December 20, 2004 shall be based on the above rate and term.

We find ways

BDO BANCO DE ORO

Lessons on work-life balance from kids

MY TODDLER'S body clock is out of whack again. He adjusts to my office hours. When I crawl home at 9 or 10 at night, he jumps at me like a wind-up toy, eager to play, eager to have all my attention, eager to make up for all the time we spent apart.

At midnight last night, he was jumping, giggling, and having a wonderful time climbing over the mountain that was his snoring father. At half-past midnight, he invited me for one more round of putting together his favorite puzzle. At quarter to one in the morning, he pulled out five books from the shelf and insisted on some bedtime stories. And finally, a whole hour after midnight, when he jumped up from bed yet another time, I turned into a witch.

I let out a blood-curdling scream, "Diseeppool! Stop! Lie down and sleep!" I was tired. I was angry. I was miserable. At such an ungodly hour, I was willing to throw out all I preach about building our child's self-esteem and talking to kids with respect (no matter what age, no matter what time of day). I just needed to scream.

My son recoiled from me, buried his face in his pillow, covered his eyes with his hands, as if to shield himself from his monster of a mom. For the first time since we began that night's bedtime ritual, he kept still enough to fall asleep. Besieged by guilt, I lay beside him. Could I have handled this better? I asked myself. It was a textbook case of a mother losing control not only over her toddler's routine and of her own emotions. It was a classic amygdala hijack. I just snapped. I had, after all, already spent the day trying to keep my emotions in check at the office, bearing the brunt of other people's temper tantrums so I could keep projects under control. But my little boy didn't know that. He was just too eager to play or to test the limits of his bedtime.

WORKING MOM

An Mercado Alcantara



I had forgotten the golden rule of balance: you've got to keep some for yourself. Balance is only possible when you have energy and emotional reserve to give your attention to what the moment requires. Being playful or being firm with your child requires energy. It was energy I didn't have because I had used it all up in the office. The guilt barometer was telling me, I needed to take a time out. Just a few minutes, on my own—to take deep breathes, to clear my mind—before I met up with Diego again.

I took that chance as Diego remained still in the nest of pillows he

had retreated into. I closed my eyes and paid attention to my breathing. A few minutes later, I felt Diego stir beside me. Maybe, he was paying attention to my breathing too. He probably sensed something had changed. He watched me out of the corner of his eye, and when he was certain I was calmer, he threw his arms out like jack-in-the-box, and shouted "ta-da!"

Then he folded himself into my arms, giggling. I held him and giggled, too. Diego sensed that we had both come to an understanding of our limits. He stayed in my arms and asked for his milk. In less than 10 minutes, he was asleep.

Thank God our kids are kids. They're resilient, optimistic, and forgiving. We've got so much to learn from them.

(An Mercado Alcantara is founding editor of Working Mom magazine, published by ABS-CBN Publishing, Inc. Comments are welcome at an.mercado@abs-cbn.com.)

Republic of the Philippines Department of Health Center for Health Development - V BICOL MEDICAL CENTER BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE Naga City

☎ 811-7802 loc. 36 • ☎ 473-8936, 473-2334

14 September 2004

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID No. 2004-05

PROCUREMENT OF VARIOUS PHARMACEUTICALS

- The Bicol Medical Center (BMC) intends to apply the sum of TWENTY THREE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY FOUR THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY FOUR PESOS & 22/100 (Php23,834,984.22) chargeable against the Government of the Philippines (GOP) Funds for the Procurement of Various Pharmaceuticals.
- The Bicol Medical Center (BMC) now invites sealed Bids from eligible suppliers/manufacturers and exclusive distributors of drugs who are qualified to participate for the Procurement of Various Pharmaceuticals. Copies of the List of Various Pharmaceuticals, with specifications and quantities are available at the BAC Secretariat, c/o Supply Section, Bicol Medical Center, Naga City.
- Delivery of the aforesaid goods shall be within FIFTEEN (15) working days upon receipt of the approved Purchase Order (PO). The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Clause 6, Section I, Instructions to Bidders.
- Eligibility of prospective Bidders to participate will be based on compliance to eligibility requirements, using pass/fail non-discretionary criteria, as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations-A (IRR-A) of Republic Act No. 9184 (RA 9184), The Government Procurement Reform Act (GPRA), and is open to all organizations with at least sixty (60%) interest belonging to citizens of the Philippines. The process for eligibility check is described in Clause 12 Section II of the Instructions to Bidders. In accordance with the IRR-A of RA 9184, only those Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check shall be opened and the IRR-A of RA 9184, (PO) awarded to the Bidder with the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid, provided the Bidder concerned passes the post qualification process.
- Interested Bidders who wish to inspect the Bidding Documents and obtain further information should contact the BAC Secretariat, c/o Supply Section, Bicol Medical Center, Naga City. Telephone No. 473-2334, 473-8936, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 P.M. Mondays to Fridays.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by Interested Bidders, from September 21 to October 22, 2004, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) and submission of a written application to the following address:
Dr. RODOLFO C. URSUA
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee
Bicol Medical Center
Naga City
- The BMC shall hold a Pre Bid Conference open to all interested parties, on October 22, 2004 at 9:00 a.m., at the Auditorium, Bicol Medical Center, Naga City.
- Bids must be delivered to the above address on November 4, 2004 not later than 8:00 a.m. at the Auditorium. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in an amount at least equal to and not lower than, a percentage of the approved budget, in any of the following forms/terms:
 - Cash, certified check, cashier's/sirname's check — One Percent (1%)
 - Bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit — One & A Half Percent (1-1/2%)
 - Bank Guarantee — Two & A Half Percent (2-1/2%)
 - GSIS Surety Bond
- The BMC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at any time prior to issuance of Purchase Order (PO) without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) RODOLFO C. URSUA, MD, FPCS, FPMA
Medical Specialist II and Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI September 22 & 29, 2004)

CALL FOR VENDORS
Don't be left behind as the two most anticipated bazars converge for the year's biggest and grandest shopping event!

GMA'S @2004 shop expo

WOW! the discovery bazaar

For the benefit of GMA, GMA's @2004 shop expo is the official booth contractor for the GMA's @2004 shop expo. Official registration provider: GMA's @2004 shop expo.

STAR CRUISES

The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific

THE ULTIMATE ENTERTAINMENT, INC.

O.A. & Cruising!
October 24-27, 2004
SuperStar Virgo

Let's party and join the fun with the country's entertainment of the year Ogie Alcasid with Ms. Bituin Escalante. Watch them perform in a once in a lifetime concert as they cruise from Singapore/Penang/Phuket/Singapore.

us\$555
PACKAGE INCLUSIVE OF ROUND TRIP
ECONOMY / S/M / M/L ECONOMY TICKETS 4D/3N
QUAD DINING INSIDE STATEROOM

For bookings and reservations please call the following travel agents:

GRAND AVATAR TRAVEL
1000 N. 10th St., Suite 100, San Jose, CA 95128
Tel: (408) 281-1111 Fax: (408) 281-1112
Email: info@grandavatar.com

PHILIPPINE AIRLINES
1200 N. 10th St., Suite 100, San Jose, CA 95128
Tel: (408) 281-1111 Fax: (408) 281-1112
Email: info@philippineairlines.com

Security Bank to sell bad loans through special purpose vehicle

By Doris C. Dumilio

MEDIUM-SIZED Security Bank Corp. has joined the growing list of banks keen on selling non-performing assets through a special purpose vehicle.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, SBC corporate secretary Melissa Aquino said the bank had secured the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' approval to establish its SPV subject to the following conditions:

- The equity investment shall not exceed 25 percent of SBC's net worth,
- The total investment in equities made by SBC in all enterprises, including the proposed SPV, shall not exceed 50 percent of the bank's net worth,
- No certificate of eligibility shall be is-

sued by the BSP unless SBC has reduced its equity investment in the SPV to a maximum of 5 percent; and,

- The SPV created shall be dissolved immediately if the non-performing assets are not transferred within the covered period of the law.

The bank did not disclose how much assets it would like to get rid of using the SPV mode.

"The BSP approval is in line with SBC's overall strategy for disposal of its non-performing assets," Aquino said.

Banks are not allowed to own controlling interests in SPVs.

To meet the deadline to avail itself of the fiscal incentives offered by the SPV law, however, banks like SBC decided to pre-register and capitalize the SPVs before the

Sept. 18 deadline.

Although the deadline for other banks to establish the SPVs that would qualify for the fiscal incentives offered by the law had expired, there are proposals for Congress to extend the effectivity of the law by another two years.

The SPV Law of 2002 intends to help banks get rid of their non-performing loans and real estate by waiving some of the taxes and reducing fees usually collected from the sale or transfer of assets.

The law waived the documentary stamp tax, capital gains tax and e-VAT (expanded value added tax) and likewise reduced the registration/transfer fees by 50 percent.

The tax relief and other benefits are available only up to April 8, 2005.



A WORKER loads a truck with broomsticks made by Filipino indigenous with competition in the markets, many consumers still opt for the old fashioned, but.

Tuna firms invest P347M in new facilities

By Abigail L. Ho

TUNA firms General Tuna Corp. (GTC) and Celebes Canning Corp. are investing a combined P347 million in the expansion of their production facilities to take advantage of increasing demand for tuna products abroad.

GTC, the export subsidiary of Century Tuna and 555 Sardines maker Century Canning Corp., will be putting in around P289 million to expand its canned tuna production and launch a full-scale pouched tuna operation.

The planned expansion would provide 564 new jobs to General Santos City residents.

The tuna manufacturing firm's venture into the pouched tuna market was in response to the growing popularity of tuna wrapped in aluminum foil.

Unlike the canned variety, pouched tuna better retains the fresh taste of the fish as well as its firm texture.

Celebes Canning, on the other hand, will be investing an additional P58 million into its operations.

This fresh infusion will almost double the firm's annual production capacity to almost 15,600 metric tons (MT), from 8,386 MT.

Trade Undersecretary and concurrent Board of Investments managing head Elmer Hernandez said tuna processing remained one of the Department of Trade and Industry's priority industries.

Tuna exports topped the list of local marine and aquaculture product export receipts at \$144 million in 2002 and \$157 million in 2003.

VAT collection from lawyers, doctors eyed

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance said it would consider removing the value-added tax exemption of lawyers and doctors to increase tax collection.

According to Finance Undersecretary Eric Recto, the VAT-exempt status of lawyers and doctors could be subject for review when the DOF decides to fine-tune its VAT-collection enhancement proposal.

In a Senate hearing on the economic impact of the Arroyo administration's fiscal measures, the Committee on Economic Affairs proposed that the VAT coverage be expanded to cover lawyers and doctors, instead of increasing the rate from 10 percent to 12 percent.

Committee chair Sen. Manuel Roxas II said simply expanding the coverage of the tax to include those who were previously exempted would result in additional revenue.

Recto, on the other hand, said that the government would be better off doing both measures—increase the VAT rate and expand the coverage of the tax.

"Improving the plan is a suggestion that has to be taken positively. We admit the current proposal was not yet as comprehensive and as detailed as we want it to be," Recto said.

Under the Arroyo administration's proposal to improve VAT collection, the government would set a VAT collection target for 2005.

If the target is not met, then the VAT rate would be increased to 12 percent.

The rate will be further raised to 14 percent if the target was still not met.

The government was hard pressed to improve efficiency of VAT collection, considering the potential revenue lost to leakages or weaknesses in the collection system.

In 2003 alone, the DOF said the government lost P144 billion from VAT leakages.

The government only collected P135 billion in VAT payments last year compared with the potential VAT collection of P279 billion.

With the proposal to enhance VAT collection, the government estimates to collect an additional P20 billion in annual revenue.



Government Warning is dangerous to

BUSINESS

DTI forms unit to manage tuna quota allocation from Europe

By Abigail L. Ho

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry has formed a monitoring unit that would ensure a more systematic administration and management of the country's tuna export quota allocation from the European Union and shipments to EU member-countries.

Trade Undersecretary Thomas Aquino said the Canned Tuna Quota Monitoring Unit to be maintained by the DTI's Bureau of Export Trade Promotion, came as a result of the European Commission's June 5, 2003 Council Regulation No. 975/2003, which awarded the Philippines a most favored nations (MFN) based tariff quota of 9,000 metric tons (MT) of tuna effective July 1, 2003. The in-quota rate was placed at 12 percent ad valorem.

Before the issuance of this EC regulation, the

tariff on Philippine tuna was at 24 percent, which was retained for exports in excess of the quota.

The same tariff quota is also applied to Thai and Indonesian canned tuna exports.

"The lowering of the tariff means P112 million per year in savings. It also provides a better competitive position for our tuna exporters in the EU market," Aquino said.

Citing unfair competition from former EU colonies in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, the Philippine government, through the DTI, urged the EU to bring down its tariff on Philippine canned tuna.

While the Philippines then was charged a 24 percent tariff, its competitors were charged way lower than that.

The total canned tuna export quota given to the Philippines is evenly distributed among tuna processors Alliance Tuna International;

Inc., Celebes Canning Corp., General Tuna Corp., Miramar Fish Co., Permex Producer and Exporter, Philbest Canning Corp., Ocean Canning Corp. and Seatrade Canning Corp., all members of the Tuna Canners Association of the Philippines (TCAP).

The quota monitoring unit was formed in response to a request from the TCAP.

The unit will provide assistance to the tuna industry on market access concerns. It will also develop a portal linked to the Atuna website, which will then serve as the local website for the Philippine canned tuna industry. This portal will serve as a venue for the promotion and marketing of canned tuna products.

Canned tuna is one of the country's major marine and aquaculture product exports, accounting for more than 26 percent of total marine exports.

Toyota starts exporting transmission assemblies

AFTER meeting stringent Japanese standards in quality and cost, Toyota Autoparts Philippines (TAP) yesterday started exporting locally made transmission assemblies to Japan.

"We are proud that these Philippine-made transmission assemblies are now a major component of the Toyota Global Supply Network," TAP chair George S.K. Ty said in a speech during ceremonies at the TAP manufacturing facility in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, yesterday.

At present, TAP exports transmission assemblies to Taiwan, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, India and South Africa.

Toyota Motor Corp. honorary chair Shoichiro Toyoda said TAP was likewise assigned as a production base for the global market.

"One primary task that we have set up for ourselves is to enhance our contribution to the Philippine economy by expanding exports from the Philippines," he said. "To fulfill this aim, we have now decided to start exporting automotive transmissions to Japan."

The Toyota Group in the Philippines, as a whole, is seen posting \$379 million in exports this year from \$373 million in 2003.

By 2005, Ty said export revenues should already hit the \$400-million mark.

The Toyota Group has so far invested P15.4 billion in the country, with plans to infuse another P7.2 billion for capacity and plant expansion this year and in 2006.

"Toyota is determined to help grow the Philippine auto industry and to contribute to the Philippine economy in the years to come," Toyoda said.

TAP's exports of transmission assemblies to Japan capped Toyota Motor president Fujio Cho's commitment to President Macapaga Arroyo during their meeting at the Sta. Rosa plant in October 2002.

Ty said this new undertaking would also "support the growth of a strong local supplier base, in line with the government's thrust of promoting SMEs (small and medium enterprises)."

Yesterday's ceremony was graced by Ms. Arroyo, Trade Secretary Cesar Purisima, Toyoda and Toyota Motor senior managing director Akio Toyoda. *Abigail L. Ho*

Imports up 6.9% to \$23.4B in 7 months

FLAT global demand for electronics products helped slow the Philippines' import growth to a single-digit clip in July, the government said yesterday.

Merchandise imports rose 5.6 percent from a year earlier to \$3.416 billion for the month after an 18-percent jump in June, the National Statistics Office said in a statement.

Imports for the first seven months rose 6.9 percent to \$23.35 billion, well below the full-year government target of 11 percent growth, it added.

Electronics imports, which accounted for 43.5 percent of the July total, fell 2.7 percent to \$1.53 billion. Such imports comprise the raw materials for electronics exports, which account for nearly 70 percent of the country's total merchandise exports in value terms.

The government earlier reported that electronics exports rose by 0.7 percent to \$2.0 billion in July.

The Philippines trade deficit widened to \$3.0 million in July, compared to a \$226-million deficit for the same month last year.

For the seven months to July, the deficit stood at \$1.515 billion, little changed from the \$1.570-billion deficit in the same period a year earlier.

The statistics agency earlier reported exports in July rose 3.2 percent to \$3.11 billion, with the seven-month total up 7.7 percent to \$21.84 billion. *it* **AFP**

CLASS

IS IN

SESSION

Marlboro
RED RACING
SCHOOL

ENROLL NOW!

CALL THE HOTLINE FOR DETAILS

895-9999 (OMAJ)

1-800-10-895-9999 (Pawli)

can only be sold to smokers 18 years old and above. Promotional material is available at all participating outlets.

g: Cigarette smoking
to your health



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION

Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
 ☎ 897 8425 (Direct) ☎ 878808 (Toll-free) Fax 8978425
 G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
 ☎ 8 4367 ☎ 8 4170 ☎ 81 4012 Fax 8925576
 ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., KUBONA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
 ☎ 81 9088 ☎ 81 9089 ☎ 81 9090 Fax 812-9011
 SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
 ☎ 8 504 8 ☎ 8473154 ☎ 8872346 Fax 6150220
 G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
 ☎ 177342 ☎ 51 4404 ☎ 5174357 Fax 51802 3
 ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
 ☎ 8474501 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
 e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

for reservations / cancellations / corrections
 Monday to Sunday
 12:00 noon
 Day before publication

BIENVENIDO CUBACUB LEUTERIO

Director, Bureau of Design, Department of Public Works and Highways, (1991-2002)
 Head, Hydraulics Department, Mapua Institute of Technology (1964-1991)

Peacefully joined our Creator on September 16, 2004 at the age of 67.

His loving wife Luz; children Lella and Rene Flores, Leny and Ariel Lacson, Leilani and Gerry Gonzales, Luzette and Sonny Liwag, Bien and May Leuterio, Burt and Imelda Leuterio; grandchildren Suzette, Rene Jr., Laraine, Liza, Joshua, Danielle, Bryan, Nicole, Camille, Byron, and Gerard, brothers Jesus and Clemente; sisters Miring, Ofelia, Zeny, Fe and Nellie and their spouses; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Chapel C, Christ the King Parish Church, Greenmeadows Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, September 26, 2004 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Christ the King Parish Church.

Virginia Dimalanta Ramos, M.D.

of Eastampton, New Jersey, and formerly
 of Jose Abad Santos Tondo, Manila, Philippines

Graduated at University of Santo Tomas,
 Faculty of Medicine, 1955

She was born on May 20, 1930 and joined her Creator
 on September 19, 2004 at Community Medical Center,
 Toms River, NJ, at the age of 74

Trained in Obstetrics and Gynecology,
 Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Practiced in the Philippines until her retirement in 1991.

Her bereaved husband, Severino M. Ramos, M.D.; children: Alexander and Aleta Ramos, Dr. David Glenn and Josephine Ramos, Susan and Eugene Cadiz, Eileen and Adel Ramirez, Dr. Mary Rose and Dr. Mario Gallardo, and Lourdes and Roszel Pilapil, brothers and sisters; her 14 grandchildren request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie at Anderson Campbell Funeral, Toms River, New Jersey from September 22 to 23.

Interment will be on September 24 at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, Toms River, New Jersey after the 10 a.m. Holy Mass.

In lieu of donations in her memory may be made to Bantay Bata, 163 ABS-CBN Foundation.

In Loving Memory
 on the First Death Anniversary
 of Our Beloved

Pilar Cueto-Leachon

(January 25, 1935 - September 22, 2003)

Holy Masses will be offered today at the following churches:

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, Proj. 6, Quezon City 6:00 a.m.
 St. Anthony Shrine, 454 Manrique St., Sampaloc, Manila 6:00 a.m.
 Shrine of Mother of Perpetual Help, Bacalar, Perpetua City 6:00 a.m.
 St. Jude Parish, P. Laurel St., San Miguel, Manila 6:00 a.m.
 Black Nazarene Parish, Quiapo, Manila 6:00 a.m.
 St. Benedict Chaplaincy, Lahad, Calapan City Dr. Mindoro 6:00 a.m.
 St. Mino Parish Church, Calapan City Dr. Mindoro 6:00 a.m.
 Benedictine Nuns Monastery Chapel, San Rafael, Calapan City Dr. Mindoro 6:00 a.m.

Her loving husband Judge Emilio L. Leachon, Jr., children Jojo and Joey, Dr. Tony and Dra. Marge, Marita and Francis, Lito and Alfa, Beck and Johnny, Archie and Adel, Atty. Doy and Rona, grandchildren RJ, JM, and Chichi, Mikea, Vana and Jola, Dianne, Gef and Alyanna, April, Bibo and Marie, Xerox and pious readers to please remember her in their prayers on her first death anniversary.

"Surely goodness and love will follow me all
 the days of my life, And I will dwell in the
 house of the Lord forever" Psalm 23:6

Our dearly beloved and precious ...
LOURDES "ELSIE"
CADIZ DAKANAY

(July 16, 1932 - September 20, 2004)

wife of Emigdio Jr.; mother of May & Boy Rosales, Phoebe, David & Juliet, and Toni-Doll; grandmother of Andrew, Kevin, Mark and Pia Rosales, Hannah and Joshua has gone to be with our Lord forever last September 20, 2004.

Vigil services at UCCP-Cosmopolitan Church, Taft Avenue, Manila (across PGH) will be held on September 22 & 23 at 8:00 P.M.

Interment will be at the Loyola Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque following the final necrological service on Friday, September 24, 9:00 A.M. at UCCP-Cosmopolitan Church

"The Lord is my Shepherd, there is nothing I
 shall want."

ALISA NORMITA
DELGADO MACAWARIS

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord
 on September 15, 2004 at the age of 26.

A beloved and youngest daughter to the late Dr. Ali G. Macawaris & Dr. Natividad Delgado - Macawaris, an endearing sister to Alina & Rochie, Ali-Luis & Anniebee, Natalie, Nohayla, Moh-al and Prachy and a loving aunt to Renzo, Rianne, Nathan, Aloysius, Le-an, Andrew, Martyn, Aphy and Nuebe.

Her body lies in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapel, Inc. 12 G. Amante Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on September 25, 2004 at the Heritage Park, Taguig at 10:00 a.m. after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at the UP Chapel Diliman, Quezon City.

"For God so loved
 the world,
 that He gave
 His only
 begotten Son,
 that whoever
 believes in Him
 shall not perish
 but have
 everlasting life."

John 3:16

OUR MOST BELOVED
HON. HECTOR FABIE DYSANGCO

of Cabanatuan City
 Judge, Municipal Trial Court
 of Santa Rosa, Nueva Ecija

(April 26, 1940 - September 19, 2004)
 Peacefully passed on eternal to join His Creator

He is mourned by his loving wife PACITA Barangan DYSANGCO; his children ARIEL & JOCELYN, DIANA ARMIDA & FRANCIS ROGIE, ROY ARNALDO, ARIES; grandchildren Anabel Joi, Althea Jiel, Adeline Jem, Dana Rogiene, Frances Dionne & Franz Daniel, brothers & sisters; brothers & sisters-in-law request the pious readers to join them in praying for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the family residence # 759 William St., Aduas, Cabanatuan City.

Cremation shall be at 10:00 o'clock AM,
 Sunday, September 26, 2004
 at Eternal Crematorium, Dagupan City

LUDOVICO
CAMPOSO MARTINO

of Cebu and Manila

Peacefully joined his Creator
 on September 19, 2004 at the age of 60.

His bereaved wife Gigi; children Giovanni, Marco and Nico, brothers Tony and Felix, other relatives and friends request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

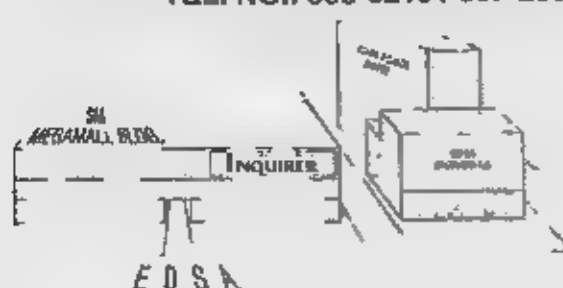
His remains lie in state at Dama De Noche Chapel, La Paz Funeral Parlor in Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque

Cremation will follow
 the 1:00 p.m. (mass) on Thursday,
 September 23, 2004.

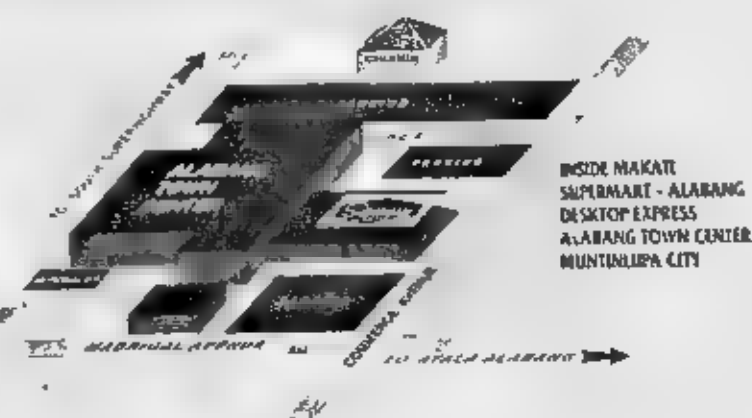
INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS branches are open to serve your Classified Ads requirements.

MANDALUYONG BRANCH

SM MEGAMALL 5TH LEVEL BLDG. B, EDSA
 Call JOY, ARNOLD, ARNEL or RANDY at
 TEL. NO.: 635-0219 / 637-2008



ALABANG OUTLET
 MAKATI SUPERMART
 - ALABANG DESKTOP
 EXPRESS
 ALABANG
 TOWNCENTER,
 MUNTINLUPA CITY
 Call at TEL. NO.:
 842-4503 / 850-6465 /
 Fax 850-6465

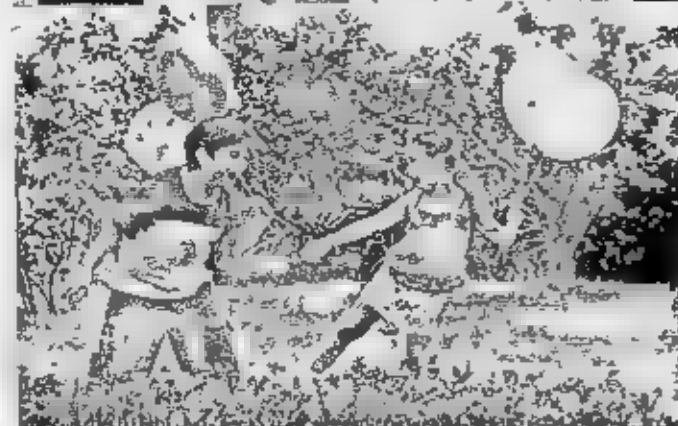
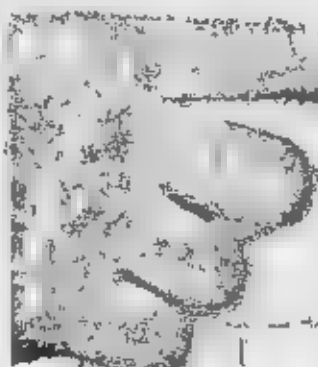


One Central Park

Luxury Residences at Eastwood City



A World of Fun and Convenience at the push of a button



The elevator ride is quick but you can hardly wait. Your excitement mounts because you know first-class play amenities plus a four-level mall are waiting for you downstairs—a revolutionary concept only found at One Central Park.

Grab a limited edition shirt.
Order a piping hot serving of cappuccino.
Savor a mouth-watering seafood set.
Relax in a landscaped garden at the podium.
Splash with the kids at the lap pool.
Tone up those abs at the gym.
Get a golden tan at the sunbathing deck.

Go ahead, embark on a journey of ease and leisure at One Central Park. Anyway, all it takes to get there is just a push of that button.



For inquiries, call **421-4243 or 421-4247**
Eastwood City Information Centre/Grand Showroom (above Celadon),
Eastwood City, E. Rodriguez, Jr. Ave. (C-5), Quezon City

Eastwood City



www.eastwood-properties.com

A JAMNAPOR 21 DEVELOPMENT

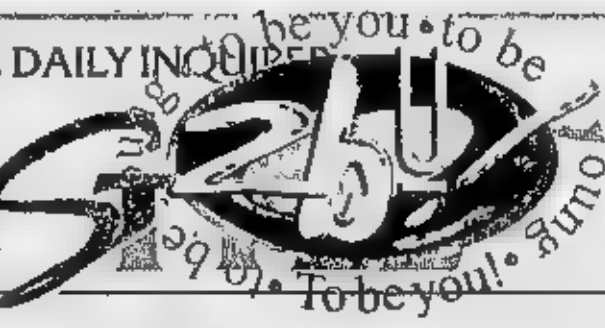
Exclusive Marketing Agent:

Eastwood Property Holdings, Inc.



TALK N' CARE
Asi Taulava
visits his
number 1 fan
Jay-R Mingao

LIFE



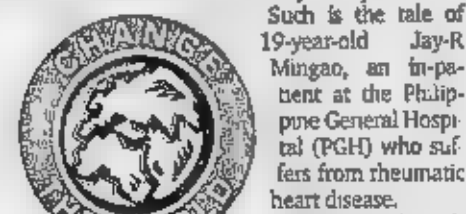
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso
Chief of Correspondents Pam Pastor

Hoops spring eternal

A 19-year-old boy diagnosed with rheumatic heart disease has only one wish—a basketball court to save his youth community from drugs

By Cheryl Tiu
2BU1 Correspondent

A WISH does not always go unheard—not when you want it more than anything else in the world. And especially not when you could have easily wished for something for yourself but, instead, selflessly opted for one that could save the lives of your peers.



Such is the tale of 19-year-old Jay-R Mingao, an in-patient at the Philippine General Hospital (PGH) who suffers from rheumatic heart disease.

Though he has always been a diehard basketball fan, his condition has irrevocably shattered his dreams of playing in the PBA and dribbling alongside his all-time hard court hero, Talk N' Text Phone Pals' Asi Taulava.

Now bedridden, Jay-R has only one wish—to have a basketball court erected for his community inside the Himlayang Palanyag, a municipal cemetery in Parañaque.

Since many young people in this depressed community are into drugs, Jay-R believes that having a basketball court built there would help promote a healthy, wholesome diversion for them.

Coming together
Enter Faith Basketball and the Make-A-Wish Foundation (MAWF). Faith Basketball came together in the summer of 2002 when then-high school buds Mikko Abello, Chummy Gonzales and Nando de los Reyes organized a team of 11- to 16-year old boys to play in the midgets division of the White Plains summer league.

Apart from coaching, the group served as counselors to kids, prayed and attended Mass with them to encourage team-building and, along with UAAP basketball stars Larry Fonacier, Ramon Sison and BJ Manalo, held a basketball camp for the kids.

Mikko had also been part of the MAWF, the largest such organization in the country. Its aim is to grant the wishes of kids with life-threatening illnesses.

One day at the Philippine General Hospital, Mikko encountered Jay-R's mother, who told him about her son's wish. Though he admits now that Jay-R's wish was quite complicated as it required quite a sum, it was also so unselfish that it was immediately adopted.

"What we try to do in Make-A-Wish is to lift their spirits," says Mikko. "This could make the kid stronger and help him fight off his sickness."

He rounded up Faith, the pop-capella group Out-of-the-Box and Publicité, a Thames Business School organization, as Jay-R's Wish Team.

The Wish Team's core of Mikko, Haydee Bellen, Ateneo Grade School Basketball coach Jay Salvador, Kirtzia Santos, Mina and Amor Herrera, Denise Peraita and Anna Ramos, worked exceptionally hard to grant Jay-R's wish.

For his birthday several months ago, Jay-R was given a small party at the PGH ward, graced by Ateneo Grade 7 student Biboy Reyes, who wore Asi Taulava's jersey in the recent Philippine Basketball Association juniors league. Biboy served as proxy for Asi who was in the USA at that time. He also gave Jay-R his Asi Taulava jersey and promised to dedicate their team's first Ateneo Pasarela game to him (which they won).

A few weeks later, Bong Ravena of the Talk N' Text Phone Pals also visited Jay-R on behalf of Asi and the Phone Pals team.

Dream come true
Two weeks later, part one of Jay-R's dream came true when his basketball idol finally

HOOPS/C2

BPI Credit Cards



Charge up your
buying power
Up to 3x

with
with

BPI's
REAL 0%

INSTALLMENT MADNESS

Glorietta Activity Center • September 9-26, 2004

BPI Credit Cards has assembled the country's TOP dealers in appliances to take you on a great shopping frenzy!



Here's how you can maximize your savings and charge up your buying power:

1. Through BPI's exclusive Special Installment Plan, you get Real 0% No Hidden Charge!
Monthly installment at 0% + 0% finance charge
BPI's REAL 0%
2. Enjoy more spending when you charge. Limit can go up to as much as 3x its regular credit limit.
3. PLUS! Your purchase qualifies for a special promotion. Buy a new TV, get a portable DVD player with 17.8cm (7") LCD monitor.

VCS VillMan **BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS**
A Tradition of Leadership
For inquiries, call 89-100 or log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com

Win P1 MILLION worth of Feel Great packages from nesVita



From page C1

came to his home to visit

"We told Asi to wait in his car first. As much as we wanted it to be a surprise for Jay-R, we knew that his heart was not in the best condition," says Haydee. "But the moment Jay-R saw Asi's tall physique coming out of his car, a big smile spread across his face. It was a big change because he normally had a sad, depressed look on his face, like most sick kids."

It was an incredible moment for Jay-R. Asi gave Jay-R a basketball, he had signed and, as the Phone Pals were leaving for Korea the next day, promised to bring the boy things from there on his next visit.

"Asi gave Jay-R a lot of inspirational words," says Mikko. "He

constantly told Jay-R to be healthy and strong."

Now that a part of Jay-R's wish has been completed, the Wish Team is moving on to the Big Thing—the construction of the basketball court.

For this, the group has decided to spearhead a series of fundraisers to be able to finance the project. And from the look of things, God seems to be cheering them on.

One day, Mikko and Haydee happened to be at the Barangay Ginebra Gin Kings' office, and they mentioned Jay-R's case to assistant coach Binky Fava. Coach Binky told them to write a letter, and the next day, team manager Allan Caidic called Mikko up to vouch for their team's support.



PLAYING AND PRAYING. Kids learn the basics of basketball and the Christian faith from Faith Basketball and UAAP heroes Bj Manala and Larry Fonacier.

Thus, the Wish Team's first fundraiser for the Jay-R Mingao basketball court is Champions United—a benefit game between the Talk N' Text Phone Pals and the

Barangay Ginebra Gin Kings set for Sept. 25 at the Adidas Sports Kamp in Fort Bonifacio.

The event also comes with performances by 2003 Freestyle Asian Face-off Champion Nino Ventura and his team, "Flip Ballaz," Out-of-the-Box and several other acts.

Gift Gate is at the forefront of the construction of the basketball court for Jay-R. And with every purchase at Swatch stores and kiosks of a Swatch watch, Bijoux or Flik Flak watch until Friday, Gift Gate is giving away two tickets to the exhibition game. These tickets may be donated to other Make-A-Wish kids to give them the chance to see their PBA idols in action.

For more info, call MAWF at 8401553 or 0920-5126960. Or e-mail: faithbbal@yahoo.com

E-mail the author at chloe.dominique@yahoo.com

We publish stories about young people and groups who are trying to make a difference. Submit articles or send us suggestions at ls2bu@inquirer.com.ph. Because age is not a hindrance, it's a springboard for change.



THE KIDS of Faith Basketball during their basketball camp

Big hearts wanted!

HAVE you been devoting your time to making the world a better place? Have you been pledging your hours to good causes? Do you know someone dedicated to service?

Join "Change the World Through Volunteerism: The Search for the Best Student Volunteer."

We are looking for college students with a passion for volunteerism. You can nominate yourself or nominate someone else you know.

Send us a photo copy of the nominee's school ID, photos of the nominee and answers to this questionnaire:

Name

Age

School

Course

Tell us about your volunteer experience (projects, organizations, causes)

Which cause you are most passionate about? (e.g. poverty, arts, literacy)

Why should you be chosen as the Best Student Volunteer?

Entries may be sent to "Change the World Through Volunteerism: The Search for the Best Volunteer," Philippine Daily Inquirer Bldg., Don Chino Rocas Avenue corner Yague and Mascarido Streets, Makati City, or e-mailed at changethe-world@inquirer.com.ph.

Deadline of submission is on Oct. 4, 12 nn. All nominees will automatically receive a gift pack from Hands On Manila and the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

We will be selecting 20 nominees, who will be featured in the pages of 2bu!

On Oct. 24, Hands On Manila and the Philippine Daily Inquirer will have a whole-day affair at the NBC Tent called "VIP: Volunteers in Person."



This event, which is sponsored by Bench/HerBench and Kidieparty.com, will be a fun full-day celebration of the selfless act of volunteerism. At this event, the top 20 nominees will be escorted down the ramp by UAAP players, models and celebrities in a fashion show directed by Ariel Lozada.

The three best volunteers will also be announced at this event, along with the winner in the People's Choice category.

Winners will receive plaques and exciting prizes.

All these, because your big heart and generous spirit deserve to be in the spotlight.

Make Jay-R's wish come true

Here's another way to help

Gift Gate is playing a big role in the construction of the basketball court for Jay-R's community.

And now you have the power to help make other dreams come true.

If you buy a Swatch watch, Swatch Bijoux or Flik Flak watches from any Swatch store or kiosk from now until Sept. 24, you will be given two tickets to the exhibition game. You can choose to keep the tickets or donate them to a Make-A-Wish kid, helping achieve his or her dreams of watching their favorite basketball heroes in action during the exhibition game between the Ginebra Gin Kings and the Talk N' Text Phone Pals on Sept. 25, 6 p.m. at the Adidas Sports Kamp, The Fort.

Three hundred seats are up for grabs for Swatch customers.

Unmasking Slipknot

The band that is a deadringer for Kiss comes to Manila

By Diego Rosano P. Mapa
2bu Contributor

INDEED, it's the year of foreign acts as Manila has become a must in international concert tour itineraries. Before, fans heard of canceled dates of the likes of Red Hot Chili Peppers, Oasis, Cardigans and Limp Bizkit. Now, they have been having their share of favorite imported acts from the Black Eyed Peas to Hoobastank.

Now, another visitor is coming to town, and this one is a real monster—Slipknot.

From Des Moines, Iowa (where Ozzy Osbourne once bit off a bat's head in a concert), this nine-piece heavy metal industrial act is a real shocker. Each member wears a distinct horrific mask. The members refuse to show their true identities and prefer interviews on the phone. They are each called by a number, and they are dead serious about their image.

Besides the rhythm section and vocals, they've got two guys on customized titanium percussions (sometimes pounded by baseball bats or whatever they pick up), turntables and samplers.

Slipknot members said that they become their own masks.

According to Revolver magazine's readers' poll, the band truly creates an energetic, jaw-drop-

ping live set. It would moshharder than the audience and stage-diver from tremendous heights, while still sounding as tight as their album. That's why the kids just love 'em.

This boiling concert, also organized by Pulp magazine, is on Nov. 13 at the Amoranto Stadium. It's part of their concert tour for their third and most critically acclaimed album, "Vol. 3: The Subliminal Verses" (Sony Music). Described by a critic as "beautiful and brutal," the album was recorded in the allegedly haunted Los Angeles mansion of producer extraordinaire Rick Rubin (The Mars Volta, Audio Slave, RHCP and Rage Against the Machine).

"You can really feel (the effect of the mansion) on the album," said vocalist Corey Taylor. "There were ghosts in the machine, in the equipment. Things would freeze, things would loop for no reason at all. It was strange."

I had a chat with Joey Jordison (No. 1) at Sony's phone. He's the main drummer and exhibits the Kabuki-influenced mask. I was very afraid first thinking I'd be talking with some sick guy, but he was very normal. He gave short answers, though. I met a guy who had a chat with Marilyn Manson and he said that Manson was very human beneath the subversive front.

Thus, Slipknot's horrible im-

age is for shock purposes only. So let's see what's behind the mask.

What was it like working with Rick Rubin?

He wouldn't stop us from doing things we wanted. He wanted us to express ourselves all the time.

Was his mansion really haunted?

No, we just wanted to seclude ourselves from the city and live together and focus on making music.

Who were your influences in creating this record?

We weren't listening to any-

thing particularly. We were listening to ourselves.

Other things you do besides being in the band?

I do remixes. Basically, I'm still connected to music. One of the most popular remixes I did was for Marilyn Manson.

Who makes your masks?

I design my own mask. Actually, everybody builds his own mask.

While playing, when it all becomes sweaty and uncomfortable on stage, do you have the urge to remove your mask?

Yes, but we pledged that we'd

never remove it, even what circumstance. But off stage, fans still recognize us without it. I don't mind talking to fans when they come up to me. Besides, I'm the most recognizable, I'm only 5'4".

What's the first rock album you ever bought?

"Kiss Alive."

If you would cover a song, what would it be?

Good question. Uhm... "Fear of Napalm" from a band called Terrorizer.

Do you own an iPod? What's

in it?

Yes, but I don't usually use it. I'm still into my CDs. I'm still into the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and old Anthrax.

Did you ever get into Gwar (a heavy metal band in the late '80s who dressed themselves up as monsters)?

No, not really.

If you could collaborate with anyone, who would it be?

Actually, I've collaborated with almost everyone I like, but now I guess it would be Mike Patton (Faith No More, Tomahawk, Mr. Bungle). Mr. Bungle was one of my favorites, especially Faith No More's "Angel Dust."

What's the process in making your songs?

Sometimes it just starts with a riff, beat, or lyric. Whatever comes first.

Is it true you collaborated with Vanilla Ice?

Vanilla Ice? That's just some Internet rumor.

Is it true you're obsessed with Fiona Apple?

That's another rumor.

Now that you're coming to the Philippines soon, what should your fans expect?

I heard that we have a huge fanbase there. And when we play in a country where we've never been, the band is really all out! We are very much excited, we promise to do a great show.





Where are the partyphiles now?

AT HOME, partying

Indeed, the scene goes in cycles. What was once so hot may now be on the cold side of the hip barometer during these fickle times.

Greenbelt is still ground zero for the posh set who are all abuzz over M, the Ayala Museum Café owned by Martin Wisniewski. Last week when I visited the place for happening entrepreneur Josef Ong's birthday bash, there were lines of people

waiting to be seated.

The artsy ambience enhances the mood of the spot, plus there are enough nooks and crannies for private conversation and frolicsome moments. It helps that chef Sau del Rosario's haute cuisine is always exciting and enticing.

This early, without even having a grand launch, M Café is almost fully booked with events and parties.

On the other side of the fence, what was once Mustang is now called Studio M. But this M is not within Greenbelt. It is at the Laureano compound, where legendary party spots like ABG's and Sambo's used to be.

Studio M, owned by nocturnal navigator Alfred Lopez, is now a two-story night spot, with an all-white VIP area upstairs complete with a pole for go-go dancing. Oh, did I tell you that the downstairs bar has enough room for more go-go dancing. Fil-Am girls? You must remember that this is the home of Mustang Sady (that girl!), whose dancing prowess is known by all guys who read FHM religiously.

It seems like the single-letter-named hot spots are getting popular these days. V. M., M... What's next? E? Well, there's Elements right within the G vicinity (it's the former Prince of Wales). C? Well, that's for the comfort room.

Red, red box

These days, the lure of anything hip is



Tim Yap

not enough. Some times the most seemingly unhip happening ends up being the most fun. Take the case of my second home these days, Red Box.

One night, the outdoor music of Greenbelt reached noise pollution level (with retro songs from Rick Astley, Spandau Ballet, Debbie Gibson, etc.) so I decided to escape all this by bringing my whole group to Red Box—where we sang "Never Gonna Give You Up," "Gold" and "Electric Youth."

Whether it's a birthday party, despedida or shower party (Amaya Barretto, who's getting married this Friday, had a sing-along session with her pals hosted by Bianca Zobel), Red Box is becoming the choice for folks who want to go on either a "senti" or a song-and-dance trip.

One time I even stepped out of Red Box at 6 on a Sunday morning! (They close at 3 a.m. on weekends.) As in, nobody else was there except my friends and I. The sun was out. The people were jogging and others were on their way to Sunday Mass. And us—we came from a Red Box rave.

Home suite home

Going back to home gatherings, Celine Lopez hosted a belated birthday bash for the party scene's prodigal son, Joel Tantoco. His reason for being back? Well, let's just say he's back with a

vengeance! Goodbye London, hello Manila! (Wink, wink!)

Hip, young Manila was fully present to welcome Joe, back into their arms. He is one of the most well-loved partyphiles—and take note, one of the most hard working as well, taking charge of fashion affairs for their family's Rustan's. The U floor and the men's and women's sections have grown by leaps and bounds under his guidance.

In between martinis, I hopped to my other favorite place, Struan and Tang, on Pasay Road. It is intimate, Wi-Fi-ready (just like Lumiere—the scene's favorite breakfast and Sunday brunch spot) and with yummy food (prawn puffs, anyone?) and drinks (almond chai martini, strawberry cheesecake margarita?).

And now, August, a much sought-after tarot card reader (popular with the Makati Shang crowd) is there to tell you who your next boyfriend (or girl friend) will be.

The week's power parties

A couple of weeks back, Italian sports powerhouse Diadora launched its wares at Max Brenner. Donning its sporty spandex were celebs Iza Calzado, Russa Samson and LJ Moreno.

Tomorrow, Manual Magazine unveils its Ten Most Powerful Men Under 40 exhibit at the Podium lounge. Check out its chunkiest issue with Vanni De Sequerra as Manila labor force.

And while we're on the subject of power, let's see how the fashion forces collide, and who gets to take home the nod and the trophy for the first ever MTV Style Awards on Tuesday. I'm excited about the



"disco-luxe style" of its red carpet

On the 29th, prepare to be smoothened as Johnson and Johnson launches its J&J Baby Lotion—Milk! The unveiling of this angel's juice will happen at the Westin ballroom, where instead of drinking milk, we will lather and pamper our skin. Now how's that for cocooning?

It's not just a Credit Card



UP TO P1000

AMOUNT IN PESOS

EXTENDED

It's a full tank of freebies



Free fuel. Free First Year Annual Fees.*

Apply for a Shell Citibank MasterCard and get P500 worth of free fuel for Classic and P1,000 worth of free fuel for Gold from participating Shell stations. Promo Period extended until September 24, 2004. See flyers for details.

*Per DT NCR Permit No. 3728 series of 2004

Plus, enjoy all the standard benefits of a Shell Citibank MasterCard.

- 2% rebate for fuel purchases at participating Shell stations and 0.5% rebate on all other purchases. No limits on the rebates you can earn!
- Free 24-hour towing and roadside assistance from Wheelers Club

Get more mileage out of your Credit Card. Apply for a Shell Citibank MasterCard now. Call 423-3000 or visit www.citibank.com.ph for online applications.

The Shell Citibank Gold MasterCard fully loaded with value!

- FREE Personal Coffeemaker if your application gets approved by September 30, 2004. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3290 series of 2004
- Get an exclusive offer from Northwest Airlines. Visit www.nwa.com.ph Valid for travel from September 1 to December 31, 2004. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3298 series of 2004
- Special discounts and privileges on shopping and dining with Citibank World Privileges in over 16,000 merchants in 60 countries

* All New-to-Bank customers who must not have had a Citibank Credit Card in the past 6 months



citibank



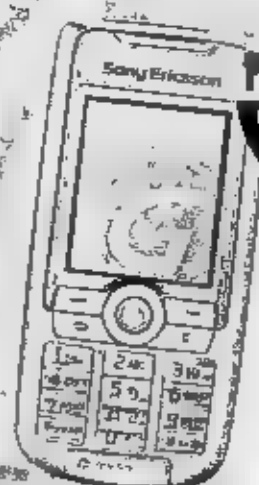
GLOBE
TELECOM

Business Center
Exclusives

**It's bigger!
It's better!**

18 gives

0% interest!



Sony Ericsson
K700i

Plan 500 as low as
P 1243.89 per mo.
Prepaid Phonekit as low as
P 3,785**
per mo.



Panasonic K400

Plan 500 as low as
P 388.89 per mo.
Prepaid Phonekit as low as
P 2,198.23**
per mo.



Samsung B410

Plan 500 as low as
P 1438.89 per mo.
Prepaid Phonekit as low as
P 4,348.23**
per mo.



Nokia 7610

Plan 500
as low as
P 1598.89
per mo.



Panasonic K100

Prepaid Phonekit
as low as
P 665**
per mo.



Nokia 3315

Plan 500 as low as
P 183.33 per mo.
Prepaid Phonekit as low as
P 581.23**
per mo.



Sony Ericsson
T230

Plan 500 as low as
P 294.44 per mo.
Prepaid Phonekit as low as
P 915**
per mo.



Motorola E398

Plan 500 as low as
P 503.33 per mo.
Prepaid Phonekit as low as
P 2,798.23**
per mo.



SUPER SISIWI! Owning a Globe HandypHONE has never been easier!

Just visit any Globe Center and check out all the available Globe HandypHONE Prepaid Phonekit and © Plan packages.

Over 25 handset models to choose from! Accepted credit cards: Banco de Oro, Bankard, BPI, CitiBank, Diners Club, Equitable, HSBC, Metrobank, Standard Chartered and Unionbank.

Promo lasts until September 30, 2004 only. For ATM-Web Permit No. 4502 Series of 2004. See flyers for details.

24 gives, low monthly payment also available.

Call 751-8888 (8am - 10pm) for FREE delivery.

making great things possible

Globe
HANDYPHONE

© plan, 0% interest also available for all new customers.
Prepaid monthly payments are paid in full.
Available at 0 plan, 0% interest only. For ATM-Web Permit No. 4502 Series of 2004.



2BU LIFESTYLE



The Philippine crocodile is close to extinction, unlike its kin in Congress

The Pinoy CROC chronicles

By J.R. Victorio
2BU Correspondent

IT'S UNFAIR to mix Filipino politicians and crocodiles together. It's even more unfair to compare politicians with crocodiles. While one is a cold-blooded vicious monster, the other is a harmless and shy animal classified as critically endangered by the World Conservation Union.

Croc Doc Brady Barr of National Geographic Channel was recently in town to study one of the 23 crocodilian species on earth, the *Crocodylus Mindorensis*.

Endemic to pocket sanctuaries in the valleys of Isabela, the Philippine crocodile is close to extinction, with only less than a hundred remaining in the wilds.

Below are croc pointers or things you should do if you cross

paths with the endangered reptile.

Remember the top and tail. When capturing a croc, it's not hard to forget those jaws—they can bite down at 3,000 pounds per square inch. But don't forget to watch out for the tail, too.

Dr. Barr recalls getting a broken leg from the crocodile's whiplash tail. So just when you've gained control of the head, don't forget that the tail may whip around your way.

Small doesn't mean safe. Many people don't think of reptiles as being good parents, but croc mothers can doze on their young for years. If you see a swamp of baby crocs, resist the temptation of cooing them like kittens or pups because you can bet that the mothers are nearby.

Don't get tangled up in rope. When easing a rope or snare over a croc, it may get angry and start thrashing around. If you're tangled in the rope at the bottom of the boat and you go over, you're history.

And never wrap the rope around your hand and especially your neck. A croc can jerk its head and pull your hand or head right off. Dr. Barr witnessed this firsthand during a shooting of National Geographic Channel's "Crocodile Chronicles."

Out of sight, not out of mind. Crocs have extraordinary color eyesight, a great sense of smell and good hearing—all packed in a small area in their skulls. This means that they can lie submerged in water, with only the tiniest part peeking out, and wait for you to make the wrong move. Just because you can't see them,



KNOW your crocs.

THE PINOY/D3



GOTCHA. Handle properly or this beast will bite.

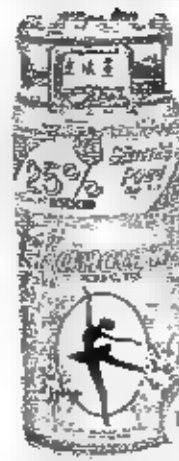
MAS MALAKAS, MAS MATINDI!

Tinode ang DDM na pumipigil ng uho.



It has any one of many many benefits.

CONSUMER'S VERDICT



Kamcuro
Herbal Tea

TOP HERBAL SLIMMING

TEA BRAND OF THE YEAR

20th Consumer's Choice Awards

of the National Consumer

Affairs Foundation.

Thank you for making us
no. 1!

100%
Pure Slimming
Tea

DIAMOND LABORATORIES, INC.
188 Ferra Road, Caramorocan, Quezon City
e-mail: diamond@diamond.com.ph

Available only at **DIAMOND** drug stores
and other leading drugstores
& supermarkets nationwide

YOUR PROBLEM: LIMP, THINNING HAIR



SVENSON'S HAIR LOSS Rx

Ultra-Lush Volumizer Treatment

Does your hair appear wispy and withering? Svenson International can turn your hair from limp and thinning to lush and thick with Ultra-Lush Volumizer Treatment. It is specially formulated to revive every strand and produce thicker, stronger-growing hair. A fuller and lush look will be restored — your hair's true "crowning glory!"

You don't have to suffer from hair loss. Take the Svenson solution for your thinning hair and look forward to more lushness and thickness. Call Svenson for a FREE hair and scalp check-up.

Woman
AT
Svenson

CALL 892-HAIR (4247)

MAKES: QUEZON CITY
1877 ST. Louis, 1877 Center Green, 1877
1877

No

sweet

talk.



The drinks pictured above are for the health-conscious. Low calorie, and like this ad, completely sugar free.

"Diet Coke light", "Royal", "Sprite", and the Dynamic Ribbon device are trademarks of The Coca-Cola Company © 2004 The Coca-Cola Company

Shell
HELIX Motor oils

GIVE YOUR CAR THAT JUST SET FEEL

REFRESH YOUR ENGINE

For more information, visit Shell Helix Motor oils website or call 1-800-Shell. Get a discount on oil change at participating service stations with every oil change!

Shell Helix Motor oils are available in 15W-40, 15W-50, 15W-60, 15W-70, 15W-80, 15W-90, 15W-100, 15W-110, 15W-120, 15W-130, 15W-140, 15W-150, 15W-160, 15W-170, 15W-180, 15W-190, 15W-200, 15W-210, 15W-220, 15W-230, 15W-240, 15W-250, 15W-260, 15W-270, 15W-280, 15W-290, 15W-300, 15W-310, 15W-320, 15W-330, 15W-340, 15W-350, 15W-360, 15W-370, 15W-380, 15W-390, 15W-400, 15W-410, 15W-420, 15W-430, 15W-440, 15W-450, 15W-460, 15W-470, 15W-480, 15W-490, 15W-500, 15W-510, 15W-520, 15W-530, 15W-540, 15W-550, 15W-560, 15W-570, 15W-580, 15W-590, 15W-600, 15W-610, 15W-620, 15W-630, 15W-640, 15W-650, 15W-660, 15W-670, 15W-680, 15W-690, 15W-700, 15W-710, 15W-720, 15W-730, 15W-740, 15W-750, 15W-760, 15W-770, 15W-780, 15W-790, 15W-800, 15W-810, 15W-820, 15W-830, 15W-840, 15W-850, 15W-860, 15W-870, 15W-880, 15W-890, 15W-900, 15W-910, 15W-920, 15W-930, 15W-940, 15W-950, 15W-960, 15W-970, 15W-980, 15W-990, 15W-1000, 15W-1010, 15W-1020, 15W-1030, 15W-1040, 15W-1050, 15W-1060, 15W-1070, 15W-1080, 15W-1090, 15W-1100, 15W-1110, 15W-1120, 15W-1130, 15W-1140, 15W-1150, 15W-1160, 15W-1170, 15W-1180, 15W-1190, 15W-1200, 15W-1210, 15W-1220, 15W-1230, 15W-1240, 15W-1250, 15W-1260, 15W-1270, 15W-1280, 15W-1290, 15W-1300, 15W-1310, 15W-1320, 15W-1330, 15W-1340, 15W-1350, 15W-1360, 15W-1370, 15W-1380, 15W-1390, 15W-1400, 15W-1410, 15W-1420, 15W-1430, 15W-1440, 15W-1450, 15W-1460, 15W-1470, 15W-1480, 15W-1490, 15W-1500, 15W-1510, 15W-1520, 15W-1530, 15W-1540, 15W-1550, 15W-1560, 15W-1570, 15W-1580, 15W-1590, 15W-1600, 15W-1610, 15W-1620, 15W-1630, 15W-1640, 15W-1650, 15W-1660, 15W-1670, 15W-1680, 15W-1690, 15W-1700, 15W-1710, 15W-1720, 15W-1730, 15W-1740, 15W-1750, 15W-1760, 15W-1770, 15W-1780, 15W-1790, 15W-1800, 15W-1810, 15W-1820, 15W-1830, 15W-1840, 15W-1850, 15W-1860, 15W-1870, 15W-1880, 15W-1890, 15W-1900, 15W-1910, 15W-1920, 15W-1930, 15W-1940, 15W-1950, 15W-1960, 15W-1970, 15W-1980, 15W-1990, 15W-2000, 15W-2010, 15W-2020, 15W-2030, 15W-2040, 15W-2050, 15W-2060, 15W-2070, 15W-2080, 15W-2090, 15W-2100, 15W-2110, 15W-2120, 15W-2130, 15W-2140, 15W-2150, 15W-2160, 15W-2170, 15W-2180, 15W-2190, 15W-2200, 15W-2210, 15W-2220, 15W-2230, 15W-2240, 15W-2250, 15W-2260, 15W-2270, 15W-2280, 15W-2290, 15W-2300, 15W-2310, 15W-2320, 15W-2330, 15W-2340, 15W-2350, 15W-2360, 15W-2370, 15W-2380, 15W-2390, 15W-2400, 15W-2410, 15W-2420, 15W-2430, 15W-2440, 15W-2450, 15W-2460, 15W-2470, 15W-2480, 15W-2490, 15W-2500, 15W-2510, 15W-2520, 15W-2530, 15W-2540, 15W-2550, 15W-2560, 15W-2570, 15W-2580, 15W-2590, 15W-2600, 15W-2610, 15W-2620, 15W-2630, 15W-2640, 15W-2650, 15W-2660, 15W-2670, 15W-2680, 15W-2690, 15W-2700, 15W-2710, 15W-2720, 15W-2730, 15W-2740, 15W-2750, 15W-2760, 15W-2770, 15W-2780, 15W-2790, 15W-2800, 15W-2810, 15W-2820, 15W-2830, 15W-2840, 15W-2850, 15W-2860, 15W-2870, 15W-2880, 15W-2890, 15W-2900, 15W-2910, 15W-2920, 15W-2930, 15W-2940, 15W-2950, 15W-2960, 15W-2970, 15W-2980, 15W-2990, 15W-3000, 15W-3010, 15W-3020, 15W-3030, 15W-3040, 15W-3050, 15W-3060, 15W-3070, 15W-3080, 15W-3090, 15W-3100, 15W-3110, 15W-3120, 15W-3130, 15W-3140, 15W-3150, 15W-3160, 15W-3170, 15W-3180, 15W-3190, 15W-3200, 15W-3210, 15W-3220, 15W-3230, 15W-3240, 15W-3250, 15W-3260, 15W-3270, 15W-3280, 15W-3290, 15W-3300, 15W-3310, 15W-3320, 15W-3330, 15W-3340, 15W-3350, 15W-3360, 15W-3370, 15W-3380, 15W-3390, 15W-3400, 15W-3410, 15W-3420, 15W-3430, 15W-3440, 15W-3450, 15W-3460, 15W-3470, 15W-3480, 15W-3490, 15W-3500, 15W-3510, 15W-3520, 15W-3530, 15W-3540, 15W-3550, 15W-3560, 15W-3570, 15W-3580, 15W-3590, 15W-3600, 15W-3610, 15W-3620, 15W-3630, 15W-3640, 15W-3650, 15W-3660, 15W-3670, 15W-3680, 15W-3690, 15W-3700, 15W-3710, 15W-3720, 15W-3730, 15W-3740, 15W-3750, 15W-3760, 15W-3770, 15W-3780, 15W-3790, 15W-3800, 15W-3810, 15W-3820, 15W-3830, 15W-3840, 15W-3850, 15W-3860, 15W-3870, 15W-3880, 15W-3890, 15W-3900, 15W-3910, 15W-3920, 15W-3930, 15W-3940, 15W-3950, 15W-3960, 15W-3970, 15W-3980, 15W-3990, 15W-4000, 15W-4010, 15W-4020, 15W-4030, 15W-4040, 15W-4050, 15W-4060, 15W-4070, 15W-4080, 15W-4090, 15W-4100, 15W-4110, 15W-4120, 15W-4130, 15W-4140, 15W-4150, 15W-4160, 15W-4170, 15W-4180, 15W-4190, 15W-4200, 15W-4210, 15W-4220, 15W-4230, 15W-4240, 15W-4250, 15W-4260, 15W-4270, 15W-4280, 15W-4290, 15W-4300, 15W-4310, 15W-4320, 15W-4330, 15W-4340, 15W-4350, 15W-4360, 15W-4370, 15W-4380, 15W-4390, 15W-4400, 15W-4410, 15W-4420, 15W-4430, 15W-4440, 15W-4450, 15W-4460, 15W-4470, 15W-4480, 15W-4490, 15W-4500, 15W-4510, 15W-4520, 15W-4530, 15W-4540, 15W-4550, 15W-4560, 15W-4570, 15W-4580, 15W-4590, 15W-4600, 15W-4610, 15W-4620, 15W-4630, 15W-4640, 15W-4650, 15W-4660, 15W-4670, 15W-4680, 15W-4690, 15W-4700, 15W-4710, 15W-4720, 15W-4730, 15W-4740, 15W-4750, 15W-4760, 15W-4770, 15W-4780, 15W-4790, 15W-4800, 15W-4810, 15W-4820, 15W-4830, 15W-4840, 15W-4850, 15W-4860, 15W-4870, 15W-4880, 15W-4890, 15W-4900, 15W-4910, 15W-4920, 15W-4930, 15W-4940, 15W-4950, 15W-4960, 15W-4970, 15W-4980, 15W-4990, 15W-5000, 15W-5010, 15W-5020, 15W-5030, 15W-5040, 15W-5050, 15W-5060, 15W-5070, 15W-5080, 15W-5090, 15W-5100, 15W-5110, 15W-5120, 15W-5130, 15W-5140, 15W-5150, 15W-5160, 15W-5170, 15W-5180, 15W-5190, 15W-5200, 15W-5210, 15W-5220, 15W-5230, 15W-5240, 15W-5250, 15W-5260, 15W-5270, 15W-5280, 15W-5290, 15W-5300, 15W-5310, 15W-5320, 15W-5330, 15W-5340, 15W-5350, 15W-5360, 15W-5370, 15W-5380, 15W-5390, 15W-5400, 15W-5410, 15W-5420, 15W-5430, 15W-5440, 15W-5450, 15W-5460, 15W-5470, 15W-5480, 15W-5490, 15W-5500, 15W-5510, 15W-5520, 15W-5530, 15W-5540, 15W-5550, 15W-5560, 15W-5570, 15W-5580, 15W-5590, 15W-5600, 15W-5610, 15W-5620, 15W-5630, 15W-5640, 15W-5650, 15W-5660, 15W-5670, 15W-5680, 15W-5690, 15W-5700, 15W-5710, 15W-5720, 15W-5730, 15W-5740, 15W-5750, 15W-5760, 15W-5770, 15W-5780, 15W-5790, 15W-5800, 15W-5810, 15W-5820, 15W-5830, 15W-5840, 15W-5850, 15W-5860, 15W-5870, 15W-5880, 15W-5890, 15W-5900, 15W-5910, 15W-5920, 15W-5930, 15W-5940, 15W-5950, 15W-5960, 15W-5970, 15W-5980, 15W-5990, 15W-6000, 15W-6010, 15W-6020, 15W-6030, 15W-6040, 15W-6050, 15W-6060, 15W-6070, 15W-6080, 15W-6090, 15W-6100, 15W-6110, 15W-6120, 15W-6130, 15W-6140, 15W-6150, 15W-6160, 15W-6170, 15W-6180, 15W-6190, 15W-6200, 15W-6210, 15W-6220, 15W-6230, 15W-6240, 15W-6250, 15W-6260, 15W-6270, 15W-6280, 15W-6290, 15W-6300, 15W-6310, 15W-6320, 15W-6330, 15W-6340, 15W-6350, 15W-6360, 15W-6370, 15W-6380, 15W-6390, 15W-6400, 15W-6410, 15W-6420, 15W-6430, 15W-6440, 15W-6450, 15W-6460, 15W-6470, 15W-6480, 15W-6490, 15W-6500, 15W-6510, 15W-6520, 15W-6530, 15W-6540, 15W-6550, 15W-6560, 15W-6570, 15W-6580, 15W-6590, 15W-6600, 15W-6610, 15W-6620, 15W-6630, 15W-6640, 15W-6650, 15W-6660, 15W-6670, 15W-6680, 15W-6690, 15W-6700, 15W-6710, 15W-6720, 15W-6730, 15W-6740, 15W-6750, 15W-6760, 15W-6770, 15W-6780, 15W-6790, 15W-6800, 15W-6810, 15W-6820, 15W-6830, 15W-6840, 15W-6850, 15W-6860, 15W-6870, 15W-6880, 15W-6890, 15W-6900, 15W-6910, 15W-6920, 15W-6930, 15W-6940, 15W-6950, 15W-6960, 15W-6970, 15W-6980, 15W-6990, 15W-7000, 15W-7010, 15W-7020, 15W-7030, 15W-7040, 15W-7050, 15W-7060, 15W-7070, 15W-7080, 15W-7090, 15W-7100, 15W-7110, 15W-7120, 15W-7130, 15W-7140, 15W-7150, 15W-7160, 15W-7170, 15W-7180, 15W-7190, 15W-7200, 15W-7210, 15W-7220, 15W-7230, 15W-7240, 15W-7250, 15W-7260, 15W-7270, 15W-7280, 15W-7290, 15W-7300, 15W-7310, 15W-7320, 15W-7330, 15W-7340, 15W-7350, 15W-7360, 15W-7370, 15W-7380, 15W-7390, 15W-7400, 15W-7410, 15W-7420, 15W-7430, 15W-7440, 15W-7450, 15W-7460, 15W-7470, 15W-7480, 15W-7490, 15W-7500, 15W-7510, 15W-7520, 15W-7530, 15W-7540, 15W-7550, 15W-7560, 15W-7570, 15W-7580, 15W-7590, 15W-7600, 15W-7610, 15W-7620, 15W-7630, 15W-7640, 15W-7650, 15W-7660, 15W-7670, 15W-7680, 15W-7690, 15W-7700, 15W-7710, 15W-7720, 15W-7730, 15W-7740, 15W-7750, 15W-7760, 15W-7770, 15W-7780, 15W-7790, 15W-7800, 15W-7810, 15W-7820, 15W-7830, 15W-7840, 15W-7850, 15W-7860, 15W-7870, 15W-7880, 15W-7890, 15W-7900, 15W-7910, 15W-7920, 15W-7930, 15W-7940, 15W-7950, 15W-7960, 15W-7970, 15W-7980, 15W-7990, 15W-8000, 15W-8010, 15W-8020, 15W-8030, 15W-8040, 15W-8050, 15W-8060, 15W-8070, 15W-8080, 15W-8090, 15W-8100, 15W-8110, 15W-8120, 15W-8130, 15W-8140, 15W-8150, 15W-8160, 15W-8170, 15W-8180, 15W-8190, 15W-8200, 15W-8210, 15W-8220, 15W-8230, 15W-8240, 15W-8250, 15W-8260, 15W-8270, 15W-8280, 15W-8290, 15W-8300, 15W-8310, 15W-8320, 15W-8330, 15W-8340, 15W-8350, 15W-8360, 15W-8370, 15W-8380, 15W-8390, 15W-8400, 15W-8410, 15W-8420, 15W-8430, 15W-8440, 15W-8450, 15W-8460, 15W-8470, 15W-8480, 15W-8490, 15W-8500, 15W-8510, 15W-8520, 15W-8530, 15W-8540, 15W-8550, 15W-8560, 15W-8570, 15W-8580, 15W-8590, 15W-8600, 15W-8610, 15W-8620, 15W-8630, 15W-8640, 15W-8650, 15W-8660, 15W-8670, 15W-8680, 15W-8690, 15W-8700, 15W-8710, 15W-8720, 15W-8730, 15W-8740, 15W-8750, 15W-8760, 15W-8770, 15W-8780, 15W-8790, 15W-8800, 15W-8810, 15W-8820, 15W-8830, 15W-8840, 15W-8850, 15W-8860, 15W-8870, 15W-8880, 15W-8890, 15W-8900, 15W-8910, 15W-8920, 15W-8930, 15W-8940, 15W-895

Reptilian rapture

The Philippine crocodile is far from the vicious and aggressive monster it is commonly made out to be

IT just occurred to me that in four days I would be another year older, and yet I felt trapped in a desolate room without windows or doors, a space of deafening silence divorced from real life. I was in a loop that went on in circles. I was depressed, and I needed an outlet.

Browsing through my e-mails, I found just the place to vent out my angst: Cagayan Valley. Unlike other 2BUH adventure tours which I had to literally beg for to cover, this expedition had only a few takers. And for one good reason: crocodiles.

No sane person would want to come face to face with a reptile that could rip your limbs off with a snap of its jaws. But as a reptilian fanatic, I knew I would feed myself to the croc if I had given up the chance to get up close and personal with our cold-blooded friends.

More e-mails and phone calls later with the National Geographic's PR agency here in Manila, Agatep & Associates Inc., I found myself bound for Tuguegarao City via Air Philippines on a lazy Friday noon.

I was already miles away from Manila and yet I still felt miserable and low. Then, thug! The rough landing shook the blues out of me.

Conservation efforts

I was with 13 other media people coming from the Philippines, Thailand and Taiwan. We were there to check out and spread the word on the crocodile conservation efforts of some locals, together with



Dr. Brady Barr with the author and other journalists from Taiwan, Thailand and the Philippines

a non-government organization. A press conference awaited us at a local hotel.

Present were people from Crocodile Rehabilitation, Observation and Conservation Project (CROC); Department of Environment and Natural Resources; representatives from the Isabela State University, local media and local government of San Mariano in Isabela.

From the presentation, we gathered that the Philippine crocodile, *Crocodylus mindorensis*, is a critically endangered species endemic only to the country, with only about a hundred or so believed to

exist. Thus, the Philippines stands in danger of losing another national treasure if conservation is not undertaken.

As presented by Dr. Merlijn van Weerd, Project Team Leader of CROC, the Philippine crocodile somehow represents the Filipino people with its small features and shy and harmless character. This is far from the general misconception that the animal is a vicious and aggressive monster, and what's more, a virtual stand-in for corrupt government officials.

The following day, we were given the chance to explore two caves, Callao and

Sierra (out of some 300 in the area). The seven-chambered Callao Cave boasts of massive limestone formations, a skylight and a chapel within its second chamber. However, one must endure climbing 187 steps to its opening.

More difficult to reach was the dark and wet Sierra Cave. Here we had to pass through thick vegetation to a gate-enclosed entrance that dropped 10 feet to a cavern. Inside are spectacular stalactite and stalagmite formations and, sadly, signs of widespread desecration by visitors and greedy rock hunters.

Scheduled for the afternoon was a closed-door interview with Dr. Brady Barr, host of National Geographic's series of Crocodile Chronicles. This herpetologist (oops, he's not into sexually transmitted diseases) has, among others, been bitten in the face by a large boa constrictor and attacked by an angry crocodile. But his passion for reptiles drives him to explore more swamps, rivers and caves around the world in search of more knowledge about these animals.

Undiscovered paradise

Next day we were off to the barrio of San Mariano to visit the crocodile sanctuary located in a stretch of the Disulap River. For 30 minutes, we hacked our way through mud, soil and two-meter-high corn crops and thorny cogon grass before reaching the rocky banks of the river, all murky and tired.

But the exhaustion was all worth it, as the place looked like an undiscovered paradise. I immediately jumped into the

cold water, unmindful of getting my muddy shoes and pants wet. I was having so much fun on my birthday that I completely forgot I was in crocodile country. But what the heck!

We enjoyed a feast of fried freshwater fish, string beans in soy sauce, pork cutlets in soy sauce and vinegar, and rice noodle soup (tiapia, sitaw, adobo and misua) courtesy of our host, the caretaker of the sanctuary.

Afterwards, we had to trek back to our vehicles. Since it was night already, we communicated by making howling sounds so as not to lose each other. After a few more hours of bumping along on rough roads, we staggered into town—only to discover that restaurants in Cagayan closed early.

But we did find one, a local fast food house named "Tasty Hut." It was every thing but still, we were famished, so we had a blast nonetheless.

Well, all good things must come to an end. As I packed my wet and muddy clothes into my bags, I realized that I would not only bring home bruises, lots of dirt and stones to tell, but also memories of adventure and fun with new friends from other countries.

Better yet, I now saw crocodiles in a new light. With the ordeal, they're going through to survive the modern world, I had no excuse to feel sorry for myself. My lingering self-pity deserved nothing more than crocodile tears. J.R. Victorio

E-mail the author at jr_victorio@yahoo.com

Bring it on!

The valiant efforts of many schools were the powerhouse squad of the UST Salinggawi

Text and photos by Ruth L. Navarro

A CHALLENGE had been issued and eight teams came to answer.

The cheerleaders clad in yellow, maroon, green, red and blue, armed with pompoms and other cheering paraphernalia, marched to Araneta Coliseum. Their mission: conquer the 6th UAAP Nestle Nonstop Black Cheerleading Competition.

As people started to fill the hall, the cheerleaders prepared in their dugouts.

Ateneo was reading text messages from their supporters, La Salle was doing some pep talk, Adamson received last-minute instructions from their coach, UE was taking photos for souvenirs and NU was doing some stretching.

In between the flurry of makeup and costume changes was the excited energy that filled the air.

Somber vibe

The Far Eastern University pep squad, however, had a different vibe. In their dressing room, they rarely smiled, their expressions uniformly somber.

"We just learned that morning that some of our uniforms were not yet ready," said team captain Brian Peralta in Filipino. "Our choreographer kept on telling us that the judges would rate our performance, not our uniforms. But it was still painful for us."

Due to the mix-up, most members of the squad were forced to wear the same outfit they had last year—faded uniforms that had obviously seen better days.

The hardest part of the ordeal, they said, was that the crowd would definitely notice. Thus, they no longer expected to be includ-



GRAND SLAM. The UST Salinggawi Dance Troupe takes home the trophy for the third time. AUGUST DELA CRUZ



"OOOH-NERSSAD ng Pilipinas!" The UP Pep Squad working hard for a shot at the crown. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Powerhouse squad

But even their most valiant efforts were enough to topple the powerhouse squad, the UST Salinggawi Dance Troupe.

Before the Salinggawi performed the memorable helicopter toss in front of the estimated 17,000 crowd, the squad had repeatedly rehearsed it in the driveway of the Big Dome.

"We wanted to execute our routines perfectly or come close to it," said team captain Jacky Tan in Filipino.

Given the team's fondness for somersaults in the air, anything less than perfection would have been dangerous.

Happily, this was one team that wouldn't be caught off-guard, either by errors, the press or a heckling crowd. In candid moments, what you get is a picture of a happy and relaxed squad.

That's why, if having fun was the formula for success in cheerleading, then the Salinggawi was most certainly doing one heck of a job. They won their third consecutive title that day.

While a sea of yellow triumphantly cheered "Go Uste" to bring the team to a stirring finish, the other teams raised their fists and their own school hymns.

It was a moment of glory not only for winners but also for every team who participated in the competition and showed what school spirit meant.



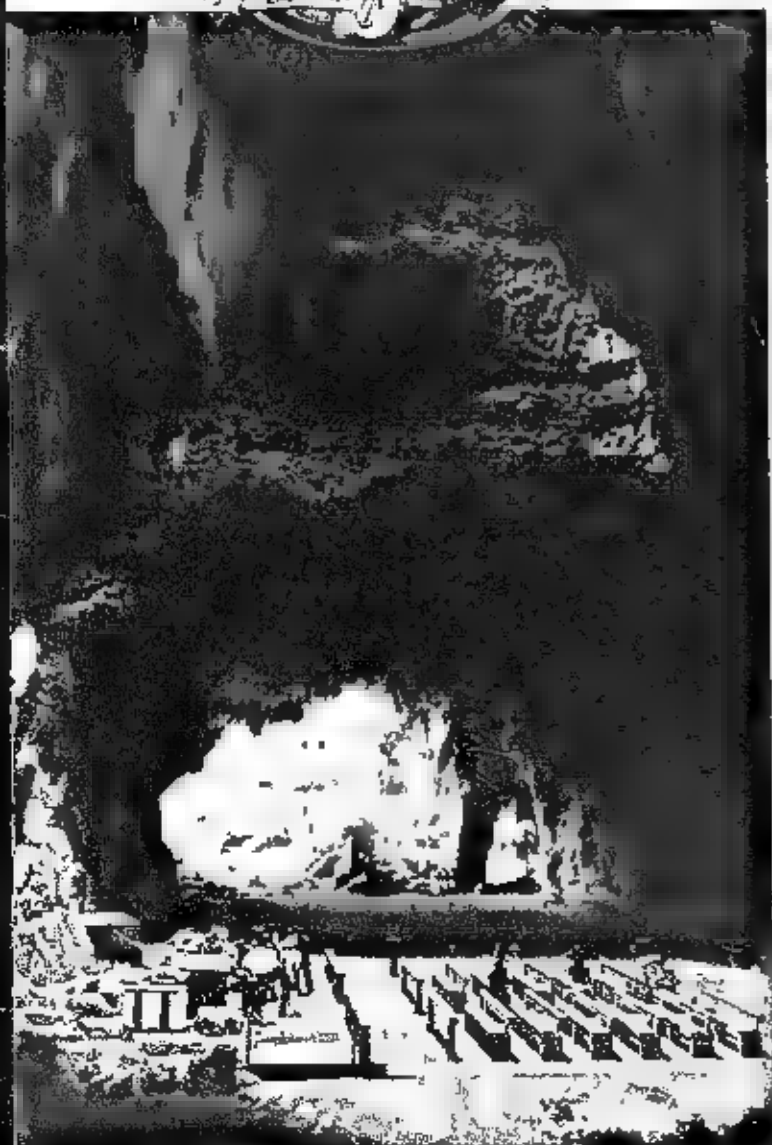
IT'S hard to put a good team down. The FEU squad showing what they're made of. AUGUST DELA CRUZ



FEARFUL warriors from the East



THEY bark and they bite. The NU Bulldogs overhauled their whole routine this year.



The Pinoy croc chronicles

From page D1
it doesn't mean they can't see you.
Know your crocs. When we talk about crocs, we're talking about any member of the reptile order. Crocodylia—that means crocodile, alligators, caimans and gharials.

One of the questions that people frequently ask is the difference between an alligator and a crocodile. The easiest way to tell is from the shape of their heads—gators have powerful duckbill snouts for eating hardshell preys such as turtles. Crocodiles have a broader snout because they're more of generalists—they hunt a larger variety of prey.

Stop! Or this croc will bite! When you're around a croc, you have to move slowly if you want to keep him calm. Avoid sudden movements.

Beware of the breeding season. Male crocs are most aggressive during the breeding season. They're very territorial, and if you're in their domain, you better be careful, even if you're on a boat. Males may view boats as either another croc or just something they don't want in their space, so they may attack the boat.

Crocs don't chew, they tear. Crocs swallow their food whole or tear off pieces—and that's why you see cooperative feeding with crocs. Their teeth alternate upper, lower, upper, lower, so they bite down, do what's called the "death roll" and basically tear along the dotted line.

To make up for the fact that they cannot chew their food, they have incredibly strong stomach acids that can readily dissolve bone.



DRL Barv, the author and a captive crocodile

But they can't digest keratin, which makes up the hair, feathers and hooves. So crocs regurgitate that stuff, just like cats coughing up a hairball.

Formerly widely distributed throughout the Philippines, the Philippine crocodile is now thought to be restricted to a few remote areas in Mindanao, Negros and Luzon.

They were first seen in 1935 on Mindoro (hence the name *C. mindorensis*). But there has been no crocodile sighted in the island recently.

In 1999, crocodiles were spotted in the municipality of San Mariano, Isabela. Since then, six sub-populations have been identified, and conservation efforts are being undertaken to preserve their sanctuaries.

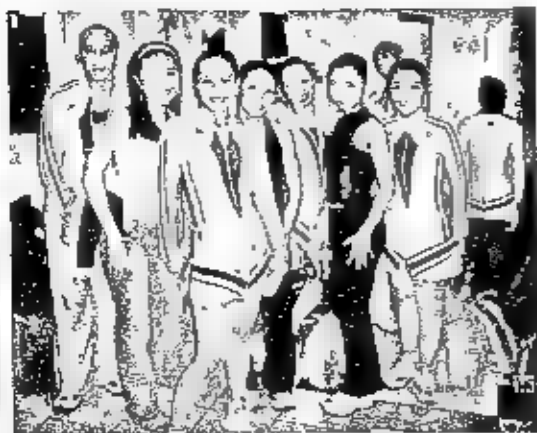
The lack of awareness and the undeserved bad reputation of these reptiles have led to their fast eradication, abetted by hunting, illegal logging, slash-and-burn farming and soil erosion.

Together with the provincial government of Isabela, Isabela State University and Leiden University of the Netherlands, and in cooperation with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Crocodile Rehabilitation, Observation and Conservation project was established to protect the wildlife and to provide information to communities so as to save the endangered freshwater crocodile of the Philippines.

E-mail: vanderploegjan@pacific.net.ph

LAO cave

not enough to topple
gawi Dance Troupe



NO bad blood in this team. The Adamson Falcons had a retreat just before the competitions.



THE ATENEU pep squad reads messages of support from their big fans—the Blue Eagles.

MELANIE Productions presents

NOVUS

Avel Bacudio, Alex Pigao
James Reyes, Popoy Barba, & Fable Mendez
Bong Laza, Loyola Ignacio
Armand Remeje, Frederick Alba, & Genex Gezum

Retaso fashion gala
September 25, 2004; 7 p.m.
Centennial Ballroom
Manila Hotel, Manila
CHILDHOPE FOUNDATION

Presented by

INQUIRER Young Hearts, Inc. **DMADON** **Juventud**

103.5 **Mirror Magazine** **dzBB AM** *Radio ng Bayan Radio Perfecto*

Also brought to you in part by:

GEN-HOSTAL **CLARITY** **Abloessence** **CLUB 8 & GARDEN** **D2** **Adaptation**

Eau de Parfum **Universal Fashion Incorporated** **Grade College** **N.O. Beauty**
Makeup by **MKS**

Special producer **ME LAMIE DAVE ALMARIO**

InqBox

What is your favorite comics strip? Why?

Texters has messages R printed in Tuesday's **InqBox** will each receive a **Guyito** stuffed toy!

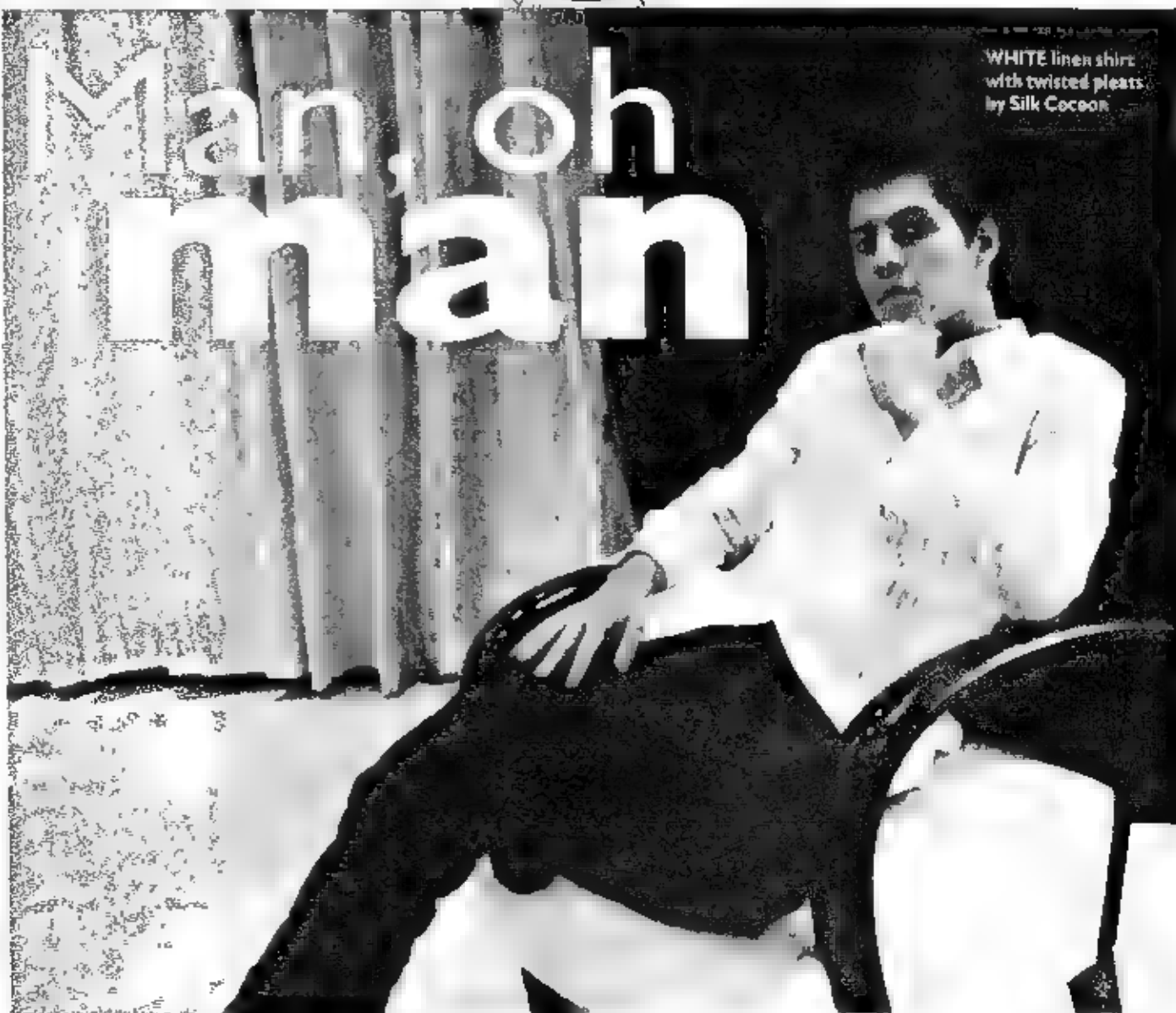
Key Inquirer 2bu
Name/city/message.
Text your answer to:
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
Maximum 160 characters

Marcos Sainz has a computer engineering degree, music course at Berklee, a versatile band, good looks and inner peace to boot



HANDWOVEN silk shirt with silk frisson embroidery by Silk Cocoon

PHOTOS: RUFFY LEMMA



WHITE linen shirt with twisted pleats by Silk Cocoon

By Niño Mark M. Sablan
2bU! Correspondent

ONE good look at the undeniably good-looking Marcos Sainz, and our usual assumptions about

such species kick in. Like he must be your typical macho man—a huge heartbreaker and love magnet, à la Julio Iglesias in his prime.

But, although some hours' worth of chitchat and goofing

around doesn't qualify me to know him thoroughly, let me assure you that, from our conversations, he turns out to be nowhere near that macho-man stereotype.

Born in the Philippines but brought up in Spain, this half-Pinoy, half-Spanish dude took up college in New York City and is now getting more units in Massachusetts.

Given his good looks, some people may assume that Marcos is a moron. Well, take this: Not only is he an autodidactic pianist (someone who learned to play on his own) who is finally taking formal lessons at the Berklee College of Music in Boston, he also worked for Palm right after finishing his Computer Engineering course in Columbia University. And did I mention that he graduated summa cum laude? Oh, and he does yoga, too.

Second look

For a guy like Marcos who was into soccer, squash and rock-climbing, yoga was a no-no at first. "I thought yoga was for girls," he says. His then-girlfriend was already into it, but Marcos simply thought the lifestyle wasn't for him.

Strangely, it was when the couple broke up that Marcos gave yoga a second look, after realizing it could be helpful in treating his chronic back pain.

After approximately a year and a half of bends, poses and deep breaths for 90-120 minutes every morning, six days a week, Marcos has gotten rid of the backache. And he says he has achieved a measure of inner peace.

Which is something he undoubtedly needs, considering that he has four fields of interest to focus his time, attention and energy on: engineering, yoga, music and modeling. And, as he is quick to add: "Living in New York for seven years—that's not peace."

As a yogi, Marcos has shifted from a meat-based diet to a lacto-vegetarian one. And he has taken his study and practice of yoga

to another level by playing teacher (unofficially for me) to a number of enthusiasts.

His goal, as with every yogi? "Nirvana. Complete pure happiness. Union with God. Culmination of spiritual practice," he says.

Fave activity

But piano playing will always remain Marcos' favorite activity.

He was a pianist/keyboardist for a band in Spain, back when he was 14. After realizing he could make a career out of his talent, he sent Berklee a demo CD in 2002, which promptly got him in—on a scholarship at that.

The timing was great. Palm had laid off its employees, including Marcos, so he had the perfect excuse to leave work and go back to school.

It's been a year down for him at the prestigious school, with a couple more to go. So far, so good, he says. He has his own band called Bora, where, apart from being the man behind the keys, he also plays travel agent, driver, sound technician, composer and arranger.

Made up of talented, idiosyncratic music lovers from five different countries, Bora's sound is pretty much "energetic, funk, dance, R&B, jazzy harmonies, acid, some of them laidback, with Brazilian rhythms," says Marcos. He likens it to acts such as Incognito, the Brand New Heavies and Jamiroquai—in other words, an ear-friendly band that happens to have drool-worthy members as well.

And when will Pinoyos get to see and hear Bora?

"It depends," says Marcos. By that he means his ability to scrape enough funds to fly the whole band to the Philippines. But he says he'd love to have his fellow Pinoyos groove to the band.

Paging big-money sponsors out there: Surely, we don't have to wait for summer to taste Bora?

E-mail the author at marksablan_2bU@yahoo.com

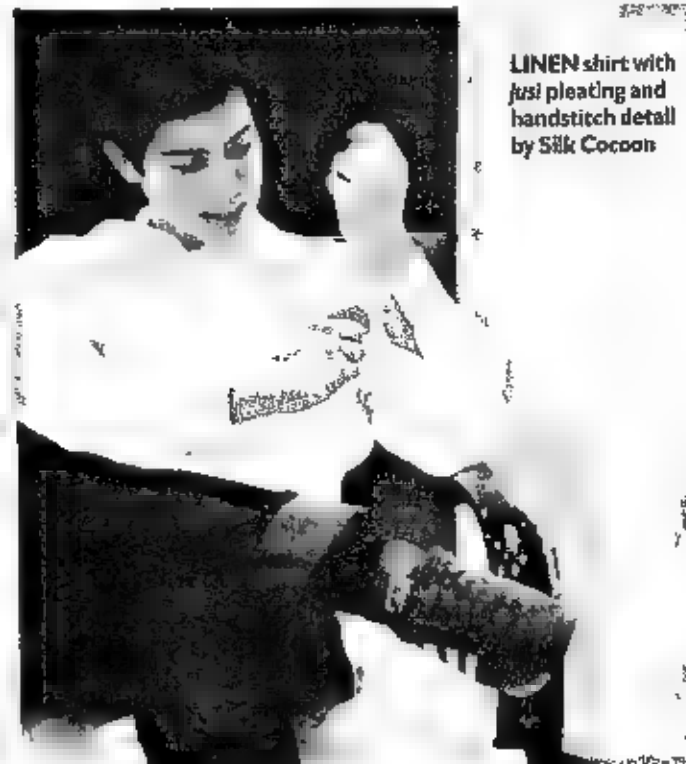
Robinsons Department Store

Baby Sale Sept. 1 to 30



50% OFF
on selected items

Plus a lot of
FREE GIFTS
and ACTIVITIES



LINEN shirt with just pleating and handstitch detail by Silk Cocoon

LIFESTYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.phText us your feedback:
Inquirer 2BU name/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Quick beauty perk-ups

THE THING I love most about this whole business of beauty is how little it takes to perk yourself up.

These days, a makeover doesn't always require an impossible slew of the latest products or the aid of intensively-trained professionals. Sometimes, the best pick-upper could be that unassuming tube you've stashed in your medicine cabinet eons ago.

So, need a quick beauty lift? Search your product collection for magic potions or discover new ones and try one (or all!) of these mini-makeovers for a good hair/skin/face day!

Céleteque Facial Wash and Water-Based Moisturizer. It's been a while since I last stepped out of the house with absolutely nothing on my face—tinted moisturizer is usually my minimum, as my skin can get dry.

Now, though, when I feel the need to let my skin breathe, this is the combo I turn to for a fresh face. The wash leaves my face clean—not parched—with its natural moisturizing factor. I follow up with the wonderfully cool gel moisturizer that melts right into my skin. Then I go on with my day with nary a need for retouching or fussing over the condition of my complexion.

Bench Fix Wearable Treatment. Do you wake up in the morning and wish you had a stylist waiting in the bathroom for your crowning glory? You can go on wishing, or you can get yourself a handy styling aid-slash-conditioner like this one from Bench.

A pea-sized dollop will get those strays behaving, while a little more will give your hair the hold of a light gel and the manageability of an anti-frizz serum. This is best for any hair type, except for extremely curly textures. For those, you'll do better with a spray-on prod that won't weigh your locks down, like Bench Fix Shine Spray, to tame that mane.

Prestige Eyeliner. I don't like wearing makeup—too much of it anyway. But when I want to look made-up with the least possible damage to my kikkay kit, I bring out eyeliner and glam up my eyes.

Perfect for a fuss-free night look, Prestige eyeliners give just the right amount of smudge. You won't look like a raccoon on your first visit to the ladies' room for a touch-up.

Shu Uemura Eyelash Curler. I can't stress it enough: Curl your lashes! It's the best trick that doesn't involve chemicals or possible damage to your skin. And I can't stress this any further:



Lora Gabol

Shu Uemura has the best lash curler. Just take my word for it—or every other girl's, for that matter. Go get yourself one!

Maybelline Lip Smooth in Cherry. This has always been my favorite low-maintenance lip care-slash-color, but I've switched to the cherry-flavored one.

I used to tote Lip Smooth in Brownie whenever I went, until I realized that the nude shade disappeared right into my post-summer paleness. Cherry gives me a subtle, just-bitten, un-Lipps candy pink that goes perfectly with a slight flush.

The Body Collection Coconut Cream Twinkling Body Shimmer. Though it comes in a cutesy-kiddy little package, this gorgeous tube of beach-babe glow is anything but.

If you'd want to feel extra sexy in that shoulder-baring top, slather on this yummy-scented body shimmer and light up your entire look (and the entire room when you step in). Use a small amount on your cheekbones as a highlighter, too, if you want more glam.

Philosophy Pure Grace Cologne Spray. The only scent that has the soap-and-water-cleanliness captured in a bottle, Philosophy Pure Grace is the only cologne you'd ever need for everyday and night.

I absolutely love the freshness it lends my spirit (it's true—I'm not just being cheesy about it), regardless of whether I spray it on in the morning or as an alternative to caffeine on late nights.

The Body Shop Matte It. Useful for either your lips or your complexion, this product can give your lip and your face an entirely different look with a discreet swipe.

If you'd rather be polished princess than dewy dame, a few drops of Matte It will instantly banish all traces of shine without dryness. A dash of this prod will give your face a traffic-stopping matte finish in a snap.

Clarins Instant Tanning Gel. Atan can turn any Plain Jane into a sizzling Brazilian babe. Okay, not exactly, but there's something about a bronze sheen that spells s-e-x-y even when the sun and sand are still a plane and boat ride away.

Clarins is still the faux tan authority, so if you can't wait for a beach trip, grab a tube and indulge your holiday fantasies through your skin.

Mistine Lip and Cheek Tint. I don't mind beginning to sound like a broken record on account of this product. I found myself paler than ever with a bad case of the sniffles this week, and this was my only salvation!

I'd wake up a ghastly white, but a few drops of this genius of a blush gave my poor health a pretty disguise. What can I say? I love this product.

Find these products at Mini Cosmetics, Independent Lifestyles Wing, Rockwell Powerplant Mall; Shu Uemura, Clarins at Rustan's; The Body Shop at major malls; Philosophy, The Body Collection, Prestige at Beauty Bar; Céleteque at drugstores and health and beauty stores; Maybelline, Bench Fix at PCX.

E-mail the author at lora_gabol@yahoo.com or pd_lanityfare@hotmail.com

Search your product collection for magic potions or discover new ones and try one of these snappy mini-makeovers

"WHO'S TO BLAME WHEN KIDS FAIL THEIR EXAMS?"
(ACTUALLY US, WE DIDN'T TELL YOU ABOUT OUR REVOLUTIONARY LEARNING SYSTEM)

"My grandson is a TOP 10 student!"
Mr. Francisco, Proud Grandfather of Kevin

POWER memory
Oxygen for Learning

FOR STUDENTS & PROFESSIONALS
For Inquiries Call:
Tel: 404-2024 • 404-2013
Fax: 404-2024 • 404-2013
Email: info@powermemory.com
Korona: 404-2024 • 404-2013 • 404-2013 • 404-2013
Korona: 404-2024 • 404-2013 • 404-2013 • 404-2013
Korona: 404-2024 • 404-2013 • 404-2013 • 404-2013

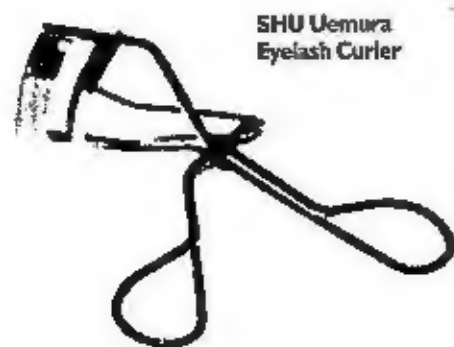
NOW OPEN FOR FRANCHISING (Unit Franchise Fees Start at P27,500)

Pamilyang busog sa 1-4-3

Sarap Ng Alaga Ni Mommy!

Para sa three loves ni Mommy, hatid niva ang sarap na puno ng kanyang pagmamahal. **Eight O'Clock**. Punong sarap ng real fruit, sarap ng vitamins and minerals, sarap ng alaga ni mommy.

Eight O'Clock is a registered trademark of The Coca-Cola Company. © 2002 The Coca-Cola Company



SHU Uemura Eyelash Curler



CÉLETEQUE Water-Based Moisturizer and Facial Wash



Uso raw sa girls yung naka-"i"...

A lot of girls are hooked on "i" - LIPOVITAN IRA to increase mental alertness, energy and stamina!

LIPOVITAN
Ira

Energy Drink for Women

FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND A. LIPIN



MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG



PUGAD BABOY

BY RM. JUNIOR



BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT



MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL



ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO



DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS



HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You have strong, focused, disciplined energy. Because of this, you achieve much. You multitask and do several projects at once. You're outgoing and extroverted, as well as solitary and introverted. You have a dry sense of humor. You influence others around you, whether you know it or not. This year is full of exciting, fresh beginnings!

Birthdate of: Bonnie Hunt, actress; Junko Tabei, mountain-climber; Scott Baio, actor.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Power struggles at work are nasty today! Somebody wants to tell you what to do, and you're not impressed with the idea.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Power struggles with children are likely today. Your sign makes the best parents. Don't get down on a childish level with your kids. Instead, elevate them by respecting their points of view.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Disagreements with partners and close friends are likely today. They could center on family or domestic matters. Don't try to run somebody else's life.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Your mind is penetrating and decisive today. It slices through everything like a hot knife through butter. If you have to persuade someone to do something, you'll do it!

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): You might use your money or your resources to restore, re-cover, refinish or improve something. You want to make things work or appear better.

VRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): You're obsessed with an idea today. It's all you can think about. It's like having the song "I Shot the Sheriff" going around and around in your head.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Today, you discover ways to change your life for the better. You can get in touch with sides of yourself that you normally don't acknowledge.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Don't coerce others into agreeing with you today, even if you're convinced that you're right. After all, you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him float.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): It might seem very important today to call attention to something, especially to your boss or someone in authority. Be careful not to provoke arguments.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): You have a strong desire to make others see your point of view. You want them to believe as you do. Remember: We are not all alike. Some people like rice; others prefer potatoes.

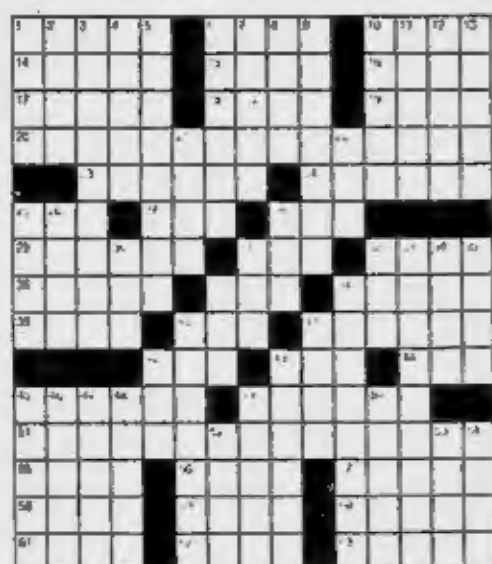
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Your ability to research and dig deep for hidden answers is excellent today. Look for bookkeeping solutions for answers related to wills, insurance and red-tape matters.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): You're determined to discover a secret of some sort. You want to know what goes on under the surface of things. (You're also interested in hidden studies and mysterious subjects today.)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 One with an IRA
- 6 Last-ending abbr.
- 10 Woe is me!
- 14 An Astaire
- 15 Rudine's love
- 16 Lion's hairdo
- 17 Gold measure
- 18 Emulate a beaver
- 19 go brag!
- 20 Start of Paul McCartney quote
- 23 Eagle quarters
- 24 Make beloved
- 25 Single grain
- 27 Body shop's \$ quote
- 28 Raincoat starter
- 29 Part 2 of quote
- 31 Vegas opening?
- 32 Speculative
- 35 Fraser Crane's brother
- 37 Illuminated
- 38 Old-time peep show
- 39 Iditarod ride
- 40 Cylindrical hat
- 41 Part 3 of quote
- 42 Contend
- 43 Actress Novel
- 44 Star Wars letters
- 45 Beset
- 49 Add to the beauty of
- 51 End of quote
- 55 Scheme
- 56 Fleetwood Mac hit
- 57 Louise and Turner
- 58 Baked dessert
- 59 Frosted
- 60 Prayer ends
- 61 God of war
- 62 New Jersey NBA team
- 63 Shell



By Alan P. Olschewski
Huntington Beach, CA

9/22/04

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



©2004 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved.

- 4 Ur the spirits of
- 5 AARP members
- 6 Aerie youngster
- 7 Color shades
- 8 Hebrew month letters
- 9 Bombard of the bar
- 10 Make revisions
- 11 Extensive
- 12 Ekberg or Baker
- 13 Mexican mixer
- 21 Kudrow of "Friends"
- 22 Balin or Claire
- 25 Has title to
- 26 Seed cover
- 28 Make lace
- 30 Oansen or Koppel
- 31 Cleburne or Smith
- 32 End of man?
- 33 Perked up
- 34 off (jump at boy)
- 35 Abominable snowman
- 37 Peggy or Picky
- 36 Forgiveness
- 40 Subs
- 41 Melocost
- 42 Caesar's seven
- 43 Works dough
- 45 Kindness to creatures org
- 46 Power option
- 47 Plumber's device
- 48 " of God"
- 49 White heron
- 50 Sound like a bell
- 52 Intertwine
- 53 Called
- 54 Lann being

BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON



MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO



KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA



LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO



TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBING





ADVANCE
Flexicoat Mascara
and Advance
Lengthening
Mascara

Mascaras for fuller lashes

EVER Bilena introduces two new mascaras to liven up those eyelashes.

Advance Flexicoat Technology and Advance Lengthening Mascara curls lengthen and thicken your lashes.

The Advance Flexicoat Technology is a waterproof mascara with the unique "flexicoat" formulation to thicken and lengthen the lashes for over eight hours, without worrying about smudges.

Jojoba oil in the mascara conditions and makes lashes radiant.

The Advance Lengthening Mascara stretches the lashes to the fullest and will not wear off for at least eight hours.

Both mascaras can be easily wiped off with any oil-based makeup remover.

The Advance Flexicoat Technology (P185) and Advance Lengthening Mascara (P165) are available in leading department stores nationwide.

Fashionista finalists bared

WILD Vines fruit-flavored wines announces the finalists for the Fashionista 2K4 design competition, to be held Sept. 23 at the Cultural Hall, Petron Megaplaza Building, Makati.

Students of the country's top schools and universities will showcase designs inspired by '60s fashion and the spirit of Wild Vines wines.

Alodia Cecilia Sales (Golden Hands Fashion and Arts School or GHFAS), Margarita Isabel Cordova (Far Eastern University), Irene Sia and Gladimir Echaverra (both from De la Salle University-College of St. Benilde) worked on the romantic hues of Wild Vines Strawberry White Zinfandel.

Wild Vines Peach Chardonnay inspired the designs of Patrick John Cruz (University of Sto. Tomas), Jose Losa (UST), Michelle Dy (La Salle College International or LSCI) and Floresca Vic Josmar (DLSU-CSB).

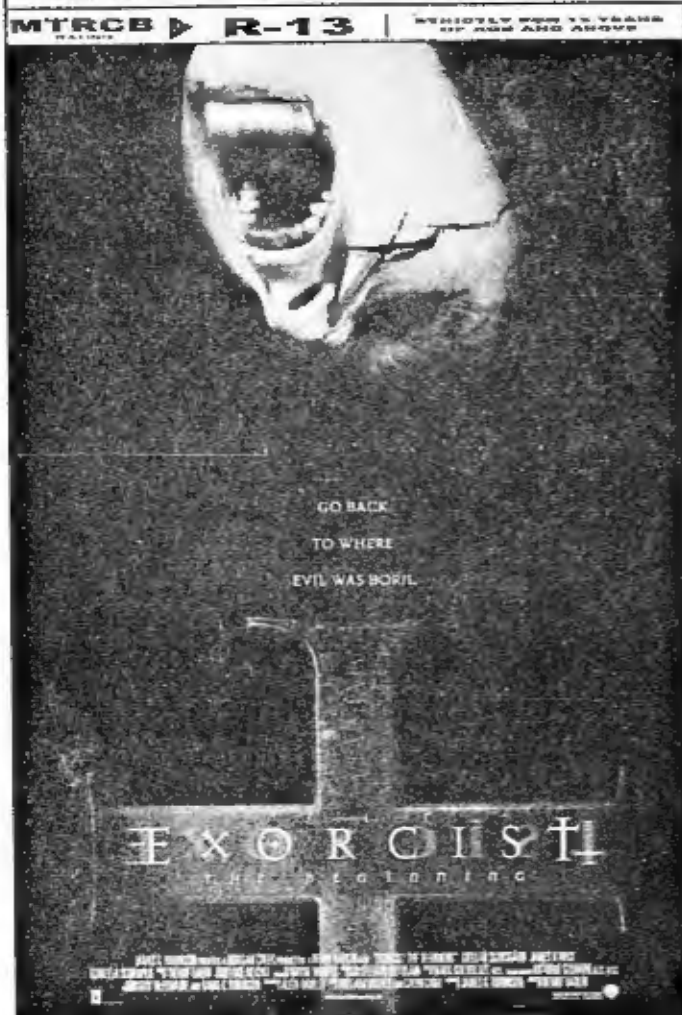
Interpreting Wild Vines Raspberry Zinfandel are John Rafael Tolentino (GHFAS), Joey Santiago (University of the East), Norman Cabos (UE) and John Herrera (Fashion Institute of the Phils.).

Designers for Blackberry Merlot are Magda Catherine Tuazon (LSCI), Sally Ocampochoa (GHFAS), Ann Therese Gacutan (University of the Philippines) and William Barja (Cora Doloroso Career Center).

The grand champion will receive a trophy, cash prize and an exclusive apprenticeship with couturier Renee Salud.

Wild Vines, a product of E&J Gallo, is exclusively distributed by The Andresons Group.

NOW SHOWING



MARKET!

MARKET!

Binondo Global City

DISCOVER THOUSANDS OF FINDS. HAGGLE FOR GREAT BUYS. EXPERIENCE ALL THESE IN A VAST AIR-CONDITIONED, CLEAN, SECURE, AND SAFE SHOPPING ENVIRONMENT.

The fun is in the finds

cinemas! cinemas!

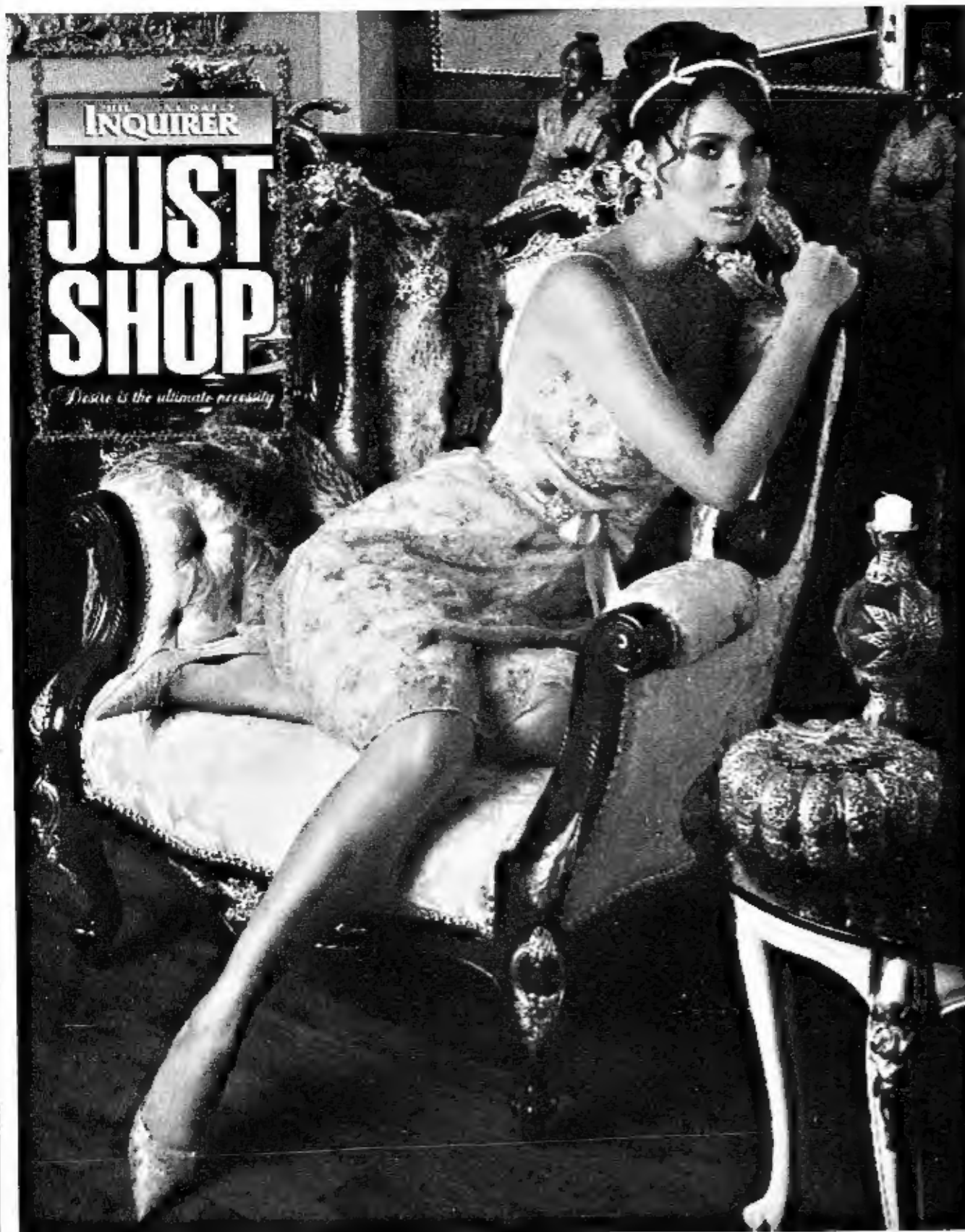
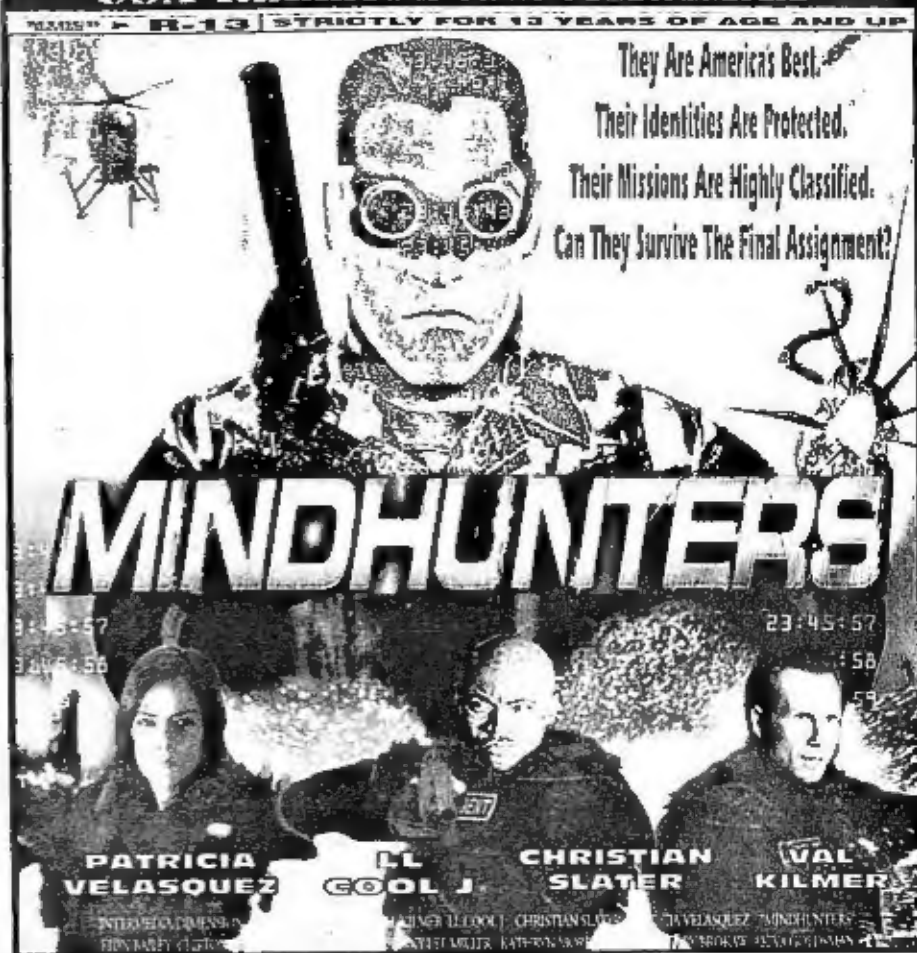
CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE: 729-7777

1	EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
2	13 GOING ON 30
3	MINDHUNTERS
4	FENG SHUI
5	THE TERMINAL
6	DODGEBALL
7	THE NOTEBOOK

Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc. Another retail innovation.

NOW SHOWING

FLASH! SEE THIS FILM AHEAD OF THE USA RELEASE FROM MIRAMAX



Inquirer cordially invites its subscriber to a grand scrimp chic celebration

Tres Chic

on Friday, the 24th of September

Madame et Mademoiselle

Learn to look like a princess without spending like one as JUST SHOP puts the chic in cheap.

We present to you low-budget items that are high in style:

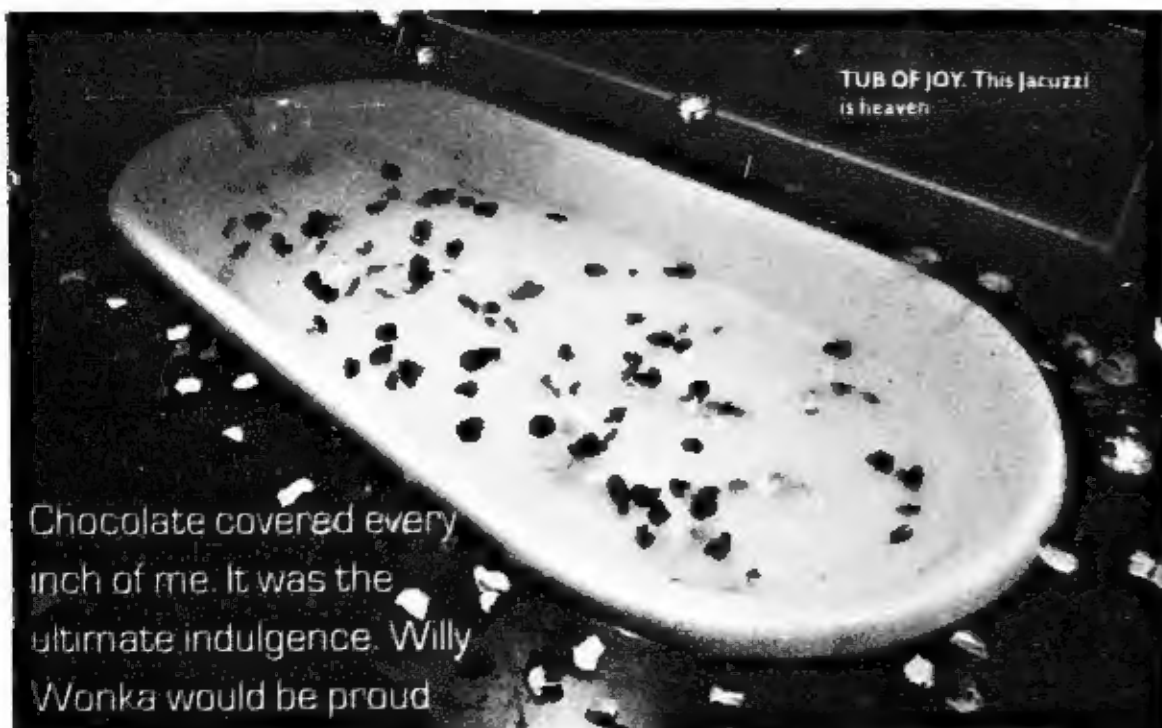
- Get Chic in the City with the best-priced LBD (Little Black Dress) in town
- Learn the art of chic from Manila's queens of style
- Get that drugstore chic look with spa pampering beauty products

Shopping has never been this easy on the wallet.

Now ... shop guilt-free!



*JUST SHOP is given free to Inquirer subscribers in Metro Manila. If you want to be an Inquirer subscriber, please call 528-0183 or 527-3348.



Chocolate covered every inch of me. It was the ultimate indulgence. Willy Wonka would be proud

Chocolate bliss, Jacuzzi ecstasy

By Pam Pastor

I LAUGHED with the gods of irony when I realized that my Chocolate Lovers Body Scrub treatment at the Pinnacle Healthpointe was scheduled on the third day of yet another failed attempt at Atkins.

What the heck, I figured. I was depriving my taste buds of sugar. I might as well let my skin have it.

My spa attendant, a quiet lady named Myla, led me to Pinnacle's Java room. One step was all it took for me to know that I had just entered paradise. The room had everything I could need—my own toilet, a shower stall and a Jacuzzi. Myla handed me a change of clothes: a mocha top, shorts and disposable panties. Soon, I was lying on my stomach on the massage table, which had been laden with banana leaves.

Myla began slathering a walnut and olive oil mixture on my body, rubbing my skin gently. "The walnut will help exfoliate your skin, removing dead skin cells while the olive oil moisturizes," she said. Myla has magic hands. I entered that room bogged down with so many thoughts about so many things but I could feel them flying away as I enjoyed her firm but gentle kneading.

After wiping off the walnut and oil mixture, Myla helped me lie on my back so she could work on my other side.

There was a large panel of the glass on one side of the room, offering a view of a single lush plant. When my eyes weren't closed, I kept my eyes on that serene scene. It helped me relax even more. Instrumental music played softly in the room, adding to the experience.

Soon, it was time for my chocolate pleasure.

Myla brought the bowl of chocolate mixture close to my nose. I inhaled deeply, breathing in its sweet richness. I found out later that Pinnacle uses pure Hershey's chocolate for their mixture.

I tried to resist the urge to lick my arm as Myla massaged the chocolate onto my body. She was very thorough. When she was done, chocolate covered every inch of me—even my armpits, my chest and my unmentionables. It was the ultimate indulgence. Willy Wonka would be proud.

Chocolate goodness

Myla wrapped my body so it could absorb the goodness of the chocolate mixture. The banana leaves aid in the absorption process.

According to her, chocolate is a natural antioxidant. Its Natural Hydroxyl Acid content is beneficial for the skin and helps fight the aging process. Chocolate is also an effective natural relaxant, thanks to serotonin.

"The wrap will last for 15 minutes. While we're waiting, I will massage your face," Myla said. The treat was far from over.

During every spa trip, one reaches the point of surrender—that point when you let go of everything, when you finally let all worries of the outside world stay outside while you succumb to the pleasure of your treatment. I reached this state as Myla massaged my face with chocolate. Thanks to the soft music, the rich smell of chocolate and the massage, I found myself in a sleepy haze.

I couldn't be too sure now, it could have been my dreamy state, but for a time, the soft music was replaced with the sounds of waves crashing and birds chirping. In my chocolate-induced haze, I heard a strange distant sound. It took a while before I realized that my phone had been ringing. No, I didn't pick up. I was still too deep in my enjoyment.

From now on, in my head, Myla will always be the queen of multi-tasking.

Because my eyes were closed as she mas-

saged my face, I had no idea she had drawn a bath for me in the Jacuzzi—bubbles, rose petals, rosemary oil and all. I never even felt her hands leave my face!

Myla unwrapped me and proceeded to wipe the chocolate off my body. She asked, "Would you like to steam while you shower?"

I nodded. She turned on the steam and made sure the temperature was just right before I stepped in. Myla left the room, leaving me to wash the rest of the chocolate off in the shower.

Bubbles and rose petals

When I was done, Myla returned to the room and directed me towards the Jacuzzi. I let myself sink into the whirling pool of bubbles and rose petals. The soft scent of rosemary lingered in the air.

She placed a tall glass of cold pink fruit juice on the side of the tub before leaving the room again, allowing me to enjoy my drink with the Jacuzzi.

My version of heaven used to be sitting on Boracay sand while sipping a banana-mango shake. But that moment might have been replaced by my Jacuzzi experience.

Reluctantly, I left the Jacuzzi and showered the bubbles off. I left the shower, toweling myself dry and got ready to put on my clothes again. But the treat still wasn't over.

Myla asked me to lie on the bed again, so she could massage me with lotion, the final step in my delightful treatment.

The entire process was so long and pleasurable that the treatment's price seemed surprisingly low.

When I was dressed in my own clothes again, Myla took me for a tour around the spa. She showed me the common rooms, the other special rooms and the couple rooms. Each special room had a different theme, ensuring a brand new experience for spa visitors.

She told me about their other treatments. Aside from aromatherapy, Swedish, sports massages and Dermalogica face treatments, they also offer a variety of other services to spoil and pamper your body: the Salt Glow Scrub (their most popular treatment—an exfoliating treatment using unprocessed sea salts and aromatic essential oil), Invigorating Body Scrub (which utilizes barako coffee beans mixed with rice), Javanese Lulur (a Javanese royalty-inspired body treatment that was originally used as a pre-nuptial pampering and cleansing treatment), Nourishing Body Wrap (a mixture of oatmeal, honey and milk), Cucumber Body Wrap (this is ideal for sun-damaged skin), Ginger Body Wrap (a heat-activated treatment for tired, sore muscles), Seaweed Body Wrap (ideal treatment for acne and can also reduce cellulite), Watties Body Wrap (light green masque, sandalwood, eucalyptus and rosehip oil), Thai Fruit Body Masque (a blend of papaya, pineapple and a splash of honey). I promised to try them all.

That afternoon, I stepped out of the spa renewed and invigorated. The treatment was Prozac for the senses. Those were two hours of sheer bliss. I had been pampered and spoiled and now I'm ready to face the world again.

Pinnacle Healthpointe is at the 2/L of the One Luna Lifestyle Center, Felina Parkplace Eastwood City, Libis, QC. Call 4381880, 6333472 and 4385321 or visit www.pinnaclehealthpointe.com.

E-mail the author at ppastor@inquirer.com.ph.



CHOCOLATE DREAMS. Get ready for two hours of pleasure.

PHOTOS: ROMY HOMILLADA

50%
on selected items
SEPT. 1 - OCT. 3, 2004

children's wear
kids
children's wear accessories

SALE

FREE

kiddie watch!
with minimum purchase worth
P300.00

Queapo • Makati • Cubao • Harrison • North Edsa • Sta. Mesa • Ortigas
Las Pinas • Bacoor • Fairview • Manila • Pampanga • Iloilo • Cebu • Davao
Cagayan de Oro • Butuan • Lucena • Baguio • Marikina • Dasmarinas

SM
DEPARTMENT STORE

SM Department Store
For 2004-2005, No. 4381880



ROYAL TREATMENT. These petals lead to paradise.

We want to pamper you

DO you want to be pampered and spoiled by Pinnacle Healthpointe's able spa attendants? Do you want to be massaged with chocolate before enjoying a dip in a Jacuzzi sprinkled with rose petals? 26U and Pinnacle Healthpointe are giving three lucky readers the chance to feel like a queen for a day with this special two-hour treatment. Just tell us why you think you deserve this treat. Send us photos, get creative. E-mail us at contest26u@inquirer.com.ph. Don't forget to add your name, age, address, school/office and contact numbers.